

Tower

Tradition

&
hav

Students
react to
events that
transform
society.

Exploring
career
options
through
academic
experience.

Freedom *Latelines* *Emergence* *Challenge*

& Ventures

& Headlines

& Advancement

& Achievement

Stepping
outside
boundaries
opens new
life
perspectives.

University
roots branch
off into the
future.

Tradition & Transition

Similar
interests
can
together
for
creative
advancement.

Look back
at the
people who
shaped the
university.

Determination

& Success

Hard work and
perseverance plays
off in Division
II action

Unity

& Motion

Growth

& Identity

Life
experiences
build
university
foundations.

Numbers

& Names

An aerial photograph of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus. The image shows a variety of architectural styles, including historic brick buildings and modern structures. A prominent red football stadium with a green field is visible on the left. In the foreground, there is a large, white, domed arena. The campus is surrounded by trees and green spaces, with a parking lot filled with cars in the lower right. The overall scene depicts a well-maintained and historic university environment.

Tower 2004

Northwest Missouri State University

www.nwmissouri.edu

Copyright 2004





Tradition & Transition

While we strove to hold on to traditions established spanning almost 100 years, transitions filtered through campus.

A possible merger with the University of Missouri system



prompted town hall meetings and online surveys for faculty and students. While some focused on the positives of such a transition in Northwest history, others were adamant that Northwest maintain its identity and traditions. However, standards remained intact.

With two Missouri Quality Awards under the university's belt, representatives from the Malcolm Baldrige Award chose Northwest for one of two statewide site visits in October.

An anonymous gift surpassed the university 'Campaign for Northwest' goals of '\$21million for the 21st Century' with a gift of \$10 million for scholarships securing Northwest as one of only two public universities in Missouri to receive an eight-figure gift.

Missouri residents taking online courses received a tuition break of \$117, while out-of-state online students maintained the same tuition rates. While only in-state online tuition rates were dropped, both groups received a \$30 delivery fee tacked onto tuition.

The Board of Regents passed an academic dishonesty policy revision in June allowing professors to take part in student punishment.



Left and Clockwise Christian band X-nelo plays at the Bell Tower in the fall. The band's name stood for 'out of nothing.' photo by Mike Dye • University of Missouri System President Elson Floyd addresses the audience at the Maryville Community Center. Talks regarding a merger with UM system began three years ago behind closed doors. photo by Mike Dye • Northwest friends and family relax and enjoy the Sprint Bearcat Zone. The Bearcat Sweetheart Ambassadors hosted tailgating at home games throughout the fall trimester. photo by Theresa Chaudin





Pride spanned academic achievements and filtered onto playing fields. Bearcat fans cheered while watching instant replays on the 10 x 15 foot JumboTron. In addition to the new scoreboard, the westside grandstands were rebuilt and suites were added as part of a \$15 million stadium renovation.



While innovations improved the face of campus, some traditions were let go. Suite-style residence halls replaced the Tundra, prior home to dances during Freshman Advantage Week and Ultimate Frisbee on sunny afternoons.

Transitions filtered through town as 97.1 KNIM changed their station format from oldies to music of the '70s, '80s and '90s. In addition to new music, a fall ground breaking took place in preparation for an Applebee's restaurant on the south end of Main Street.

Debate rose throughout the community regarding a smoking ban put into effect June 10 by the Maryville City Council. The ordinance marked the end of a battle that began in 1998 by the Smoke-Free Maryville Coalition.

As the smoke began to clear regarding "Operation Iraqi Freedom," soldiers were still being deployed while others returned home to some opposition regarding the United States initial involvement in Iraq, and whether or not the country was harboring weapons of mass destruction.



By December we still didn't know whether merger legislation would go forward. We continued with the traditions that made Northwest special and the transitions of what lay ahead.

Left and Clockwise Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia lunges toward the audience during the Homecoming Variety Show. The fraternity won the highly competitive skit competition for 'Mardi Gras Charlie Brown.' photo by Mike Dye • Tandace Lureman dances during the freshmen dance party held Advantage Week. Traditionally the dance was held on the Tundra but due to construction the dance moved to the Bell Tower. photo by Mike Dye • With teammates Sharon Rhodes and Angela Rudolph close behind her, team captain Alyssa Berwick lead the group to win a Missouri Academy rug-of-war tournament. "They make us get up and do something because we study a lot. It's just good to get outside and get involved," Berwick said. photo by Theresa Chodini





Daily life allowed freedom to explore life possibilities while students prepared themselves to venture into their future.

Freedom New Bearcat Cards without Soc Security numbers and added features were issued the fall. Students swiped the new cards for tickets to football games, groceries at the Cellar and cash at ATM machines on and off campus due to an affiliation between USBank and Northwest.

Plans to renovate the Bell Tower, a frequent gathering place and symbol of student life, were announced in mid-November. The university's seal would be removed and replaced by an 'X' that would connect the four major walkways to the plaza and enable handicap access to the Tower.

A few residence hall rooms also received a face-lift as residents *Ventures* competed in a

spin-off of the popular television show 'Tradition Spaces.' Residential Life held the third annual Dorm contest in hopes of providing students with a more home-like atmosphere.

Bearcat fans cheer at Arrowhead Stadium after the football team blocks a field goal that would have put Pittsburgh State in the lead at the end of the fourth quarter. Northwest beat the Gorillas 20-19 in the Fall Football Classic November 15. photo by Mike Dye



Maria Bredehoeft constructs her loft with her father Keith. With the help of parents and Cat Crew members, new students moved into residence halls around campus. photo by Mike Doe



Even with the heat, everything went fabulous. It proved that with planning, coordinating, and preparation that things don't have to turn into a nightmare.

Ashley Nelson



Crew *Provides* smooth moves

Temperatures scorching, Cat Crew volunteers move 100s of students.

by Kara Swink

Vehicles were backed up on Centennial Drive as freshmen students and their parents inched their way into campus around 7:30 a.m.

It was officially move-in day, and everyone tried to get unloaded possessions and lofts constructed before the mercury hit triple digits.

Mercury rose to 105 degrees by 11 a.m. The university had not seen an opening day as stifling since 1970.

The heat, however, didn't stop 167 Cat Crew volunteers move more than 1,000 freshmen into residential halls.

"Even with the heat, everything went fabulous," Assistant Residential Life Coordinator Matt Baker said. "It proved that with planning, coordinating and preparation that things don't have to turn into a nightmare."

On average, it took less than 10 minutes for volunteers to unload a vehicle, cram everything into an oversized laundry cart and have students realize they ignored the advice given at orientation about dorms having limited space.

For freshmen Ashley Nelson the five Cat Crewmembers who had her things unloaded in five minutes made a huge impression on her.

"I liked this cheap move," Nelson said. "It really helped a lot. I might just have to volunteer next year."

By 4 o'clock, Cat Crew volunteers were addicted to water; trying to flush the taste of salt from their mouth, but they didn't stop. Volunteers kept working throughout the day even when sweat ran down their face constantly, but their hard was noticed by parents and students.

Jerry Zevecke, who moved his daughter into Dieterich, said the volunteers were a great addition to the day.

"Today really helped out the parents and students," he said. "You can tell the college really made an effort to head this up."

As temperatures decreased and vehicles cleared Centennial Drive, freshmen students kept unpacking belongings while starting their college experience.

Bank on New features

Alterations simplify student life on campus.
by Megan Heuer

Changes occurred on campus to accommodate the student bodies constantly shifting needs.

The Bearcat Cards donned a new look and new uses during the 2003-2004 year.

Sophomore Christine Brown said the added little pictures on the new design show all the uses the new cards had.

"It's more professional looking," Brown said.

The Bearcat Card design changed to accommodate its new features. USBank worked with the university to allow students to attach their savings or checking accounts to their Bearcat Cards. The feature allowed students to use Bearcat Cards in ATM machines on and off campus.

Parents addressed the issue of money access on campus and the university activated the plan with USBank after they research the project. A little more than 1,000 students signed up for the new feature. Student ID numbers replace Social Security numbers as the first change.

Bearcat Cards were also usable at sporting events for student admission. New machines were used to swipe the card and then tickets were administered.

The university changed more than the look of the student ID card.

Due to construction, the Cellar Grocery Store moved to the Student Union. Students noticed a difference in traffic due to the move.

"I do notice that the Union's a lot more crowded since people are going in and out," senior Katy McLain said.

Some students appreciated the move to the Union but said it did have its disadvantages.

"It's more convenient to have the Cellar in the Union because people go to the Union more often," Brown said. "But, I don't like it because the selection is smaller."

The university also added a new campus dietician. A 2002 graduate, Molly Driftmire grew up in Clarinda, Iowa.

Driftmire said she helped with nutrition, weight loss, weight gain or eating habits.

"My services are free to students, so if they want to make an appointment with me all they have to do is call," Driftmire said.

The university continued to connect students to campus as they adjusted to several hints of change.



Maggie Cole shops in the Cellar located in the Union. The Cellar was located in the Conference Center before construction began in the fall and the interior of the center was gutted. *photo by Theresa Chudina*



Tiffany Bohannon (front) and Heather Lompe (back) shop at the Celler. The Celler stayed open until 10 p.m., which extended former Student Union hours. *photo by Theresa Chiodini*

The new Bearcat Card was redesigned in part to protect from identity theft. The new cards featured an identification number that replaced student Social Security numbers. *photo by Mike Dwyer*



Spice up to Comfort

Students make use of opportunity
to change living quarters free of cost.

by Brent Burklund

A

spin-off of the popular TV show "Trading Spaces," De-Dorm attempted to give residence hall rooms a more comfortable atmosphere.

The Residence Hall Association sponsored the third annual De-Dorm contest, allowing three teams of two residence hall roommates to give their friends' space a unique look.

"We're trying to push the idea of residence halls instead of dorms," RHA Sponsor Diana Royer said. "And this gives them an idea to make it nicer, since the rooms are so plain to begin with."

Participants started their day with a \$75 stipend and a trip to buy supplies at Wal-Mart. The only stipulation: decorations could not leave any permanent marks on furniture or fixtures. Participant Abby Galbraith, Franken Hall resident, welcomed the opportunity for change.

"I think that a lot of students leave the room like it is," Galbraith said. "And this is a way to have friends create that homelike atmosphere they never took the time to do."

Galbraith ran into a problem while painting Japanese characters on a loft that didn't fit in teammate Crystal Benton's room. To make use of the painted side panels, she propped them behind the bed.

According to Galbraith, the day would have run smoother if

participants went to Wal-Mart the day before to save time and if RHA allowed more helpers. While she had trouble meeting deadline, Galbraith found the stipend of \$75 adequate; she only spent \$64.

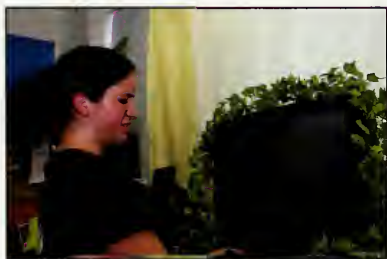
Unlike Galbraith, Benton's teammate Cassie Wilmes put a few items back on the shelves to stay within the \$75 budget. Benson and Wilmes were anxious to see how their room turned out but stayed away not to ruin the surprise.

"We're trying to stay as close to the real "Trading Spaces" as possible so (Abby) can't really know what we're doing," Benton said.

For Galbraith's room they set a "Hawaii meets Las Vegas" theme. A purple cloth canopy and decorative lights setback Benton and Wilmes. Time ticked; both rushed to meet the 6 p.m. deadline. Exceeding the deadline by half an hour, Benton and Wilmes left out the decorative lights.

A total of 10 students in six residence hall rooms participated in De-Dorm, headed by RHA member Jodie Hitz. The \$75 stipend was funded by RHA who also promoted the involvement of students to create a comfortable living environment.

"I like doing this program, even though it takes tons of work and tons of planning," said Jodie Hitz. "Because at the end of the day it is all worth it."



Framing a TV with ivy, Amanda Hays completes one more thing on her to-do list while participating in Residence Hall Association's De-Dorm contest. Hays later hung up flowers and other items to finish the look of the room. *photo by Mike De*



I think this is a great opportunity and I think it is a lot of fun because it is like having a TV show and putting it to real life.

Christie Colwell



Abby Galbraith paints colorful designs on a loft in the De-dorm Your Room contest. Students received \$75 to go to Wal-Mart and buy materials necessary for the job. photo by Brent Burkland



Reaching to paint a bookshelf pink, Christie Colwell checks another item off her list. Colwell not only painted, but suspended other items from the ceiling to complete the Hawaiian theme in the room. photo by Mike Doe

Using lighting as an integral part of her design, Megan Rodery fastens strings of lights to her friend's loft to De-Dorm her room. Rodery also decorated the light fixture in the room and created a colorful couch underneath the loft. photo by Theresa Chasley

With the new dorms being constructed, construction workers spend hours laying the foundation. Board of Regents member James Johnson called the decision to begin construction "necessary for us to continue to function as a University." photo by Mike Dye



Construction on the new student apartments located on Centennial Drive is projected to be finished in August 2004. Students will be able to move in for the fall 2004 trimester. photo by Theresa Chudnu

University construction workers assemble wood for the new dorms that will be available for use fall 2004. Vice President of Student Affairs Kent Porterfield referred to the project as "a big undertaking." photo by Theresa Chudnu



New look

adds Options

Construction brings forth new looks on campus through renovations and apartments.

by Michelle Stacy

During through campus senior year, she remembered her first days on campus and how it changed in three short years.

"It's much different now from my freshman year," senior Julie Ritzman said. "Until this year, we mainly just saw new parking lots or roads, but the new buildings and the stadium are a big change for Northwest."

Over the summer, crews worked on residential living complexes, improved roads and finished renovating Rickenbrode Stadium.

Phase one of a four-phase process to improve residential living began during the summer months. Phase one included building suites in the area between Phillips and Franken hall, known as the Tundra. Many upperclassmen were sad to see the Tundra go.

"When I was a freshman I remember people from the high rises playing football in the Tundra on nice days," Ritzman said. "It was also where different events from Advantage Week were held."

However, because of the construction, Advantage Week activities normally held in the Tundra moved to the Bell Tower.

Designed for sophomores and juniors, the suites, located in the Tundra, were designed to house up to four people a piece, and include two bedrooms, one bathroom and a living room. Each floor would share a laundry room, kitchen, study room, meeting room and lounge. Once completed, the suites would house around 360 beds.

Another part of phase one included new university apartments built on Centennial Drive. The apartments, designed to house around 200 juniors and seniors, would each have four private bedrooms and two bathrooms. Each apartment would have a kitchen, living room and washer and dryer.

Until completion of the new apartments and suites, South Complex gave students the closest thing to apartment-style residential housing.

Ritzman said she was excited for younger students even though she would graduate before the completion of the new housing.

"I chose to live off-campus, because I didn't like the dorms, but now these apartments give students a new option," Ritzman said. "Upperclassmen can still have an off-campus feel with an on-campus advantage."

Construction caused some inconveniences for students. Residents of Franken and Phillips Halls had parking cut due to construction.

Other construction went on throughout the school year. A new commuter parking lot construction site blocked the road behind the armory and Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. The blocked road left parking next to College Park temporarily closed.

Although construction caused temporary inconveniences for students, the new lot gave students more parking for class and closer parking to Rickenbrode Stadium.

The parking lot, however, was not the only new addition to the stadium. The campus saw another major change with the completion of the Rickenbrode renovations.

"I remember as a freshman the excitement of going to my first Bearcat football game, and it was just as exciting to go to the first game in the new stadium," Ritzman said.

The renovated stadium included a new press box, more seating, suites and the Cat Vision scoreboard.

"The new Cat Vision pumps up the crowds even more than at old games," Ritzman said.

Over a few years time, students watched the university change before their eyes with new roads and buildings.

"Although it's different from the way I remember when I came in as a freshman. "It is still so exciting because of all the new traditions the changes will bring for students in the future," Ritzman said.

Witnesses of the *Battle* in Iraq

Fraternity brotherhood remains strong while new ones form on the battlefield

by Amber Brazil & Betsy Lee



All the decades of deceit and cruelty have now reached an end. Saddam Hussein, and his sons, must leave Iraq within 48 hours. Their refusal to do so will result in military conflict, commenced at a time of our choosing."

President George W. Bush announced the ultimatum to the world March 17, 2003—a day when most students were celebrating St. Patrick's Day and enjoying spring break. However, bikinis and partying became the farthest thing from the minds of three university students.

Two hours after the promised deadline, Bush declared war on Iraq. A four-minute speech forever changed the lives of Fred Weixeldorfer, Alan Hargreaves and Stephen Terry.

While a fraternity in itself created a kinship, the Delta Chi brothers formed an additional bond as they left to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Weixeldorfer left for training with the U.S. Army Jan. 16, 2003. Declaration day confirmed he would be stationed overseas.

Weixeldorfer said he experienced the hardest day April 14 with the 3rd Infantry Division after entering Baghdad, Iraq.

"The 3rd (Infantry Division) lost a lot of good men that day," Weixeldorfer said. "It was terrible watching those men and myself go through what we did. I still can't believe it to this day."

Weixeldorfer remained overseas as the first trimester of the 2003-2004 school year came and went. His biggest reward came with providing aide to Iraqis. Weixeldorfer felt most Americans did not understand the benefits of troops being there.



Alan Hargreaves surprises Fred Weixeldorfer, stationed in Balad, Iraq, with a visit from Al Udeid, Qatar. Leaving behind their lives at Northwest, Delta Chi fraternity brothers Hargreaves and Weixeldorfer fought in Operation Iraqi Freedom. photo submitted by Alan Hargreaves

"They don't see the tears in the Iraqis' eyes when we deliver them food, water and so on," Weixeldorfer said. "They don't see the little kids running up screaming 'USA, USA, USA'."

Times like these made the Middle East much easier to bare for Weixeldorfer. And seeing a familiar face did not hurt either, as he reunited with Hargreaves during the summer in Balad, Iraq.

Hargreaves spent March through August overseas with the Missouri Air National Guard—two months in Saudi Arabia and four in Qatar. He served on flights going into and out of Iraq as a crew chief mechanic. Once finding the location of Weixeldorfer, Hargreaves rode the next plane his crew flew toward Balad to surprise his fraternity brother.

Hargreaves gathered treats of candy, beef jerky and cookies to take with him. He knew Weixeldorfer and his fellow troops had been eating Meals Ready to Eat the whole time and had not had real food in months.

"To me it was one of the most important days that I had during this whole conflict," Hargreaves said. "I watched as fellow Army troops picked through the boxes we had brought Fred, with tears in their eyes, of what seemed to be a bountiful feast. Unless a person has lived through such horrific conditions, they'll probably never know how blessed we are as Americans."

Every time Hargreaves and his St. Joseph, Mo., aircrew flew into Iraq, they would bring boxes of fruit and such to hand off to troops from all military branches.

"It takes a combination of everyone's efforts in order to accomplish mission objectives," Hargreaves said. "I guarantee that the worst place in America is better than the best place over there."

In preparation for the trying elements, the U.S. military made homeland efforts as well. Terry, a third fraternity brother and veteran in peacekeeping missions, trained U.S. troops for Iraq January through May 2003.

Stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., Terry instructed soldiers in the Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Commands. The army did not send him to fight the war in Iraq because he had just returned from a yearlong stay in Kosovo.

Terry prepared soldiers for combat, showed them how to survive in the desert terrain and taught humanitarian assistance.

"The biggest job in Iraq right now is winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people," Terry said. "It's not about the guns."

Though he did the training that sent American soldiers such as Weixeldorfer to the Middle East, Terry believed the job of rebuilding Iraq and winning over the citizens should not have been left to the United States alone.

"It's time to bring our boys home, step back and withdraw," Terry said. "We should let other countries get involved, and let NATO and the United Nations do their job of rebuilding the country. They need to make it better than it was so we don't have to go back over there again."



Preparing soldiers for battle and teaching humanitarian assistance, Stephen Terry is part of the U.S. Army's Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command Division. "One thing you can't teach is how to deal with the death of a fellow soldier," Terry said. Photos submitted by Stephen Terry.

“ Unless a person has lived through such horrific conditions, they'll probably never know how blessed we are as Americans.

Alan Hargreaves

”

Appreciate the Start of Sisterhood

Many experience joys and pain of the sorority pledging process during Fall Rush 2003.

by Jessica Schmidt

week's worth of parties and activities came together in one final moment. Women with crossed fingers and sweaty palms ripped open Bid Day invitations to see which sorority accepted them.

Recruitment week started with Sorority Tea in the Mary Ann Auditorium. Sororities participating in formal recruitment performed a song and dance for the potential pledges. Sorority presidents spoke to them about what sorority life had to offer.

"The Sorority Tea helped clarify some things for me, as to what the sororities here on campus do and such," freshmen Amanda Granger said.

The next evening, the women met in the Union Ballroom to have their picture taken and questions addressed. When Friday approached, the potential pledges were assigned to Gamma Chi groups to attend the first recruitment parties.

Forty Gamma Chi leaders, and three alternates from different sororities participated in the recruitment process. For the past two years, Sigma Kappa member Jill Awtry chose to be a Gamma Chi.

"I got to experience both sides of recruitment," Awtry said. "My sophomore year, I went through it as an active member, and for the last two years I went through recruitment as a Gamma Chi. Overall, I like being a Gamma Chi better, because I feel you really get to know the girls better, you get to see the real person."

Gamma Chi's were not allowed to reveal which sorority they belonged to and had to seclude themselves by staying in a local hotel for the duration of recruitment week.

Potential pledges realized the seriousness of recruitment the second day of parties. Sororities and potential pledges had to drop one another Saturday night.

"I think the worst part of recruitment is choosing who to drop," Sigma Kappa Sherry Bowen said. "You feel that you don't get enough time to know the girls, and then you have to make a decision based on a first impression."

The dropping process hit pledges the hardest. Dropped by five sororities on the first drop day, sororities dealt Granger the unexpected.

"I didn't expect to get dropped," Granger said. "You go into it with the mindset that you will be dropping the sorority, not that they will be dropping you. It was hard for me to deal with the rejection. But it didn't change my perception overall about the Greek system here at Northwest."

Granger had the option of continuing on with recruitment but chose to back out because she did not believe she could see herself as a member of the remaining sorority.

For those that survived, the final and most formal party of recruitment week happened Monday night. After potential pledges attended one or two preference parties, they had to decide which sorority they wanted to pledge.

"Preference Night was my favorite night because it affirmed my decision and made me feel closer to the girls," Alpha Sigma Alpha pledge Emily Andrews said.

Bid Day concluded recruitment week. The women gathered in the union ballroom to await their invitations.

For Phi Mu pledge, Maria Mendez, Bid Day was her favorite part of the week.

"It was really nerve-racking because I knew I wanted Phi Mu," Mendez said. "When I opened my letter and saw that it was a Phi Mu invitation I started crying and ran outside and hugged girls that I had never talked to before."

On Bid Day outside the union anxious sororities stood waiting with banners, signs, T-shirts, gifts and silly string. After opening invitations, new pledges were allowed to run outside and meet their new sisters. Gamma Chi's, anticipating their release, pounded on the windows and waved. After all the pledges were announced, the Gamma Chi leaders were finally "freed" and allowed to see their sisters once again. For the new pledges, they were ready to start making new friends and memories.

Although Granger and others like her did not receive a bid, there were hopes for next year.

"At this point I will probably go through recruitment again next year," Granger said. "I have learned from my experiences, and I would do it again because I now know what to expect."



Desiree Campbell and Liz Varnon relax after welcoming the new pledges to their sorority on bid day. Campbell and Varnon's sorority Sigma Kappa welcomed 20 pledges who joined 57 active members. photo by Mike dye



Cheering for their members involved in the lengthy Rush process, Tri-Sigma sisters gather in front of the Student Union. After the excitement died down, group photos were taken in front of the Bell Tower. photo by Mike Dye



You feel that you don't get enough time to know the girls, and then you have to make a decision based on a first impression.

SIGMA KAPPA
SHERRY BOWEN



Alpha Kappa Lambda brothers, Ryan Hansel, Nick Smith and Dennis VanAusdal cheer on the Kansas City Royals at a home game. Rushes attended the game with active members during Rush Week. photo by Trevor Hayes

Eye opening experience by Trevor Hayes

When I thought of Greek life, I thought of the stereotypical drunken parties and guys taking advantage of intoxicated girls.

My eyes were opened to a different world during Fall Rush 2003 after I went undercover as a pledge for Tower.

When I started Rush, I chose two open houses. One gave away free pizza and the other had sign-ups for a free Royals' game, which proved the theory true. The way to a man's heart is food and sports.

At my first stop Tuesday, after my tour of the house, a car drove by blaring its horn and a girl popped out of the sunroof with her shirt over her head. I thought to myself, 'My God, what have I got myself into, I've only been here 10 minutes.'

We toured the house and talked about "soda," giving girls "soda" and how much they like "soda." I kept thinking to myself, 'You were right, you're not going to fit in, you're not a drinker, smoker or a womanizer. You don't belong here. Why did you even volunteer for this assignment?'

Soon, I found myself on the porch of the house, talking to a few guys about beer, girls and baseball. Then, I met the president, and we talked about high school. I felt myself loosening up a bit and didn't feel as tense as I was when I first arrived.

The next night, I went to another house and took a friend, which helped me relax. They showed us around the house, with their sunken in dance floor and blacked out windows. I also saw a funnel connected to the gutter, so people could pee off the balcony instead of going down a floor to the bathroom.

I met a few guys who I related to and ate a lot of free pizza, something I hadn't taken advantage of the night before. Overall, I had a much better time than expected.

On the drive home, I found myself questioning my original opinions and thinking about joining. I'd met people similar to myself.

The next Monday, I went to a bonfire held by the first house. The county's burn ban kept the fire out, so we stood around and talked more about baseball and the Kansas City Royals game. They really seemed like my kind of guys.

When I checked my voice mail Tuesday, I'd received messages from both houses. They made sure I was okay and still interested. I was shocked that either house even called. I didn't think they cared. I was impressed.

I had to be at the house at 4 p.m. for the game. When we got on the bus, I started talking to the president. He told me about ripping mailboxes out of yards, and I told him about my adventures with a sledgehammer in high school.

I was being sucked in but in a good way. I debated the whole way to the game if I should become a pledge or keep my secret.

At the game, they gave each of us two tickets so we could get two Royals 'Believe!' T-shirts. Then we went up to our seats. We cheered, talked baseball, ate peanuts and won both the game and Krispy Kreme doughnuts. It was a night full of brotherhood.

On the trip home, I talked to the rush chairman. I told him I was undercover and hadn't considered joining, but that I had changed my mind. I thought I had shot my chances of being able to join, but he told me he appreciated my honesty.

I signed my bid, but missed the next meeting. When I got in touch with the guys, they said my bid didn't clear.

"We're really sorry dude," the president said. "It is completely our bad. You're a cool guy and we are really sorry. Please feel free to rush again in the spring or next year."

After the experience, I learned that Greek life wasn't what I'd thought. There were drunken parties and womanizers out there, but for the most part, these guys were like real brothers.

“

She's got lots of brothers and sisters here that are getting a taste of it and getting excited about thinking about coming up here.

”

KELLY COPLEN

As the ROTC Color Guard paused on the field, player Adam Otte stands with his hands over his heart, singing the national anthem on Family Day. Otte played on Family Day all four years, to a packed stadium. *photo by Theresa Chodura*

University President Dean Hubbard awards the Family of the Year plaque to the Stephens family, during the halftime of the game. Abby Stephens nominated her family. *photo by Mike Dye*



Celebrating family Bonds

Parents and siblings experience campus life.

by Megan Heuer

Families flocked to campus on a warm fall day to sample Bearcat life. Family Day allowed parents and siblings a chance to see what college life became to their students.

Parents built lofts in residence halls, made trips to Wal-Mart and toured campus before football tailgating began. Siblings joined brothers and sisters to enjoy time together.

"They're awesome," freshman Lindzy Croisant said. "They don't get to see me very often now that I'm here. So, I loved having them here."

Croisant enjoyed her siblings on campus for a visit, and her parents thought the visit introduced the kids to what college would be like.

"She's got lots of brothers and sisters here that are getting a taste of it and getting excited about thinking about coming up here," Croisant's parent Kelly Coplen said.

Families packed into the Sprint Bearcat Zone before the game against Central Missouri State University Sept. 20. Hookslide, an a Capella group, serenaded the crowd as they lined up to eat chips and hot dogs. The group entertained the audience with oldies, pop and barbershop music. Hookslide pulled student Leslie Griswold out of the serving line and sang to her.

"When he sang to me it made me feel like the center of attention, but it was embarrassing at the same time," Griswold said. "The lady next to me said, 'Aren't I pretty too?' Then, he started singing to both of us."

Campus organizations created an upbeat atmosphere with booths including balloon animals and university gear.

"It's keeping everyone's spirits up for the game," Bearcat Sweetheart Jamie Roberts said.

The Alumni Association named the Stephens family of Diagonal, Iowa Family of the Year. Parents Carleen and John Stephens graduated from the university and were active Greeks.

"They can tell us what it was like whenever they were here," daughter Abby Stephens said.

Older siblings Alex and Abby attended the university and youngest brother Adam planned to graduate Diagonal Community High School in the spring and head to campus.

The Stephens family spanned four different Greek organizations, which they said brought them together.

Abby turned in the Family of the Year application because she believed her family was closely bonded. Her family was very excited when they found out they had won.

The Stephens family received special attention on Family Day for winning the award.

"There were two ambassadors who made sure we had everything we needed, and they gave us free concessions at the game," Abby said. "They treated us really nice."



Alpha Sigma Alpha sisters cheer for the Bearcats as they play Central Missouri State University. The sorority sat together to celebrate family day and their 75th anniversary. Photo by Theresa L. Allen

Spotlight toward *Center* Stage

Student run organization proves
long hours and hard work a success.

by Megan Heuer

The theater filled with emotion as dancers expressed their inner most feelings to bringing to life dances that meant so much more than their actions could display.

The Northwest Dance Company entertained the crowd with their annual dance show Oct. 24 with the theme of "Midnight Masquerade." Styles of dance included lyrical, modern, jazz and tap mixes. Founding company members choreographed and coached all 10 dances.

Student officers carried the weight as new and old dancers prepared weeks before their final performance. NWDC began spring trimester 2000. By spring trimester 2003, student officers completely ran the NWDC.

"There are a lot of decisions that have to be made that don't make everyone happy," Dance Company President Ashley Tyser said.

Along with making tough decisions, officers, choreographers and the more experienced members showed leadership by helping out the companies newest dancers.

"We feel bad giving them constructive criticism, but they seem to take it well," member Danae Jacobs said.

Taking criticism in stride, freshman Karen Beard had minimal dance experience before she auditioned for NWDC and said the first practice tested her dedication.

"We all got up there and were trying to do all these technical things," Beard said. "It was so hard. None of us really knew what we were doing, and I walked away just so frustrated just thinking 'I am not made for this. There is no way I can do it.'"

Beard said the second practice changed her mind about the company. While most dancers believed their career ended in high school, NWDC gave them a chance to continue.

"As a young child, I started dancing, and when I came here I thought that I wasn't gonna dance anymore, and then I found the company," Tyser said. "The people involved in it just made me really want to keep staying involved and to do more."

Tyser said choreographers looked for confidence, determination, work ethic and facial expressions from women who auditioned.

After weeks of two-hour dance classes, NWDC worked with the theater department to create lighting designs for the performance. The final product satisfied Tyser.

"From a choreographer and an exec board standpoint, (the best part is) seeing the dances come together and just seeing what we have worked so hard all year to do come alive on stage," Tyser said.



Anthony Rupnow embraces Christine Miller in the dance entitled Resurgence of Faith performed to "Hand Me Down" by Matchbox 20. "This was my first dance show ever," Rupnow said. "I thought it would be fun and it was really great." *photo by Mike Dye*



Taking the stage in the spotlight, choreographer Stacey Hester moves to a Madonna medley during the dance piece. Madonna's music was chosen because it reminded the dancers of their childhood. *photo by Mike Drie*



Eric Harbin lifts Elizabeth Holmes as a symbolic move of his devotion. In order to portray realistic emotions through dance techniques, the two practiced seven weeks in advance. *photo by Mike Drie*



Dancing to songs from "Moulin Rouge," students in the Northwest Dance Company pump the energy with a center leap. Autumn Sparks, a first-year choreographer, worked with nine dancers to fine tune techniques for "A Night on the Town." *photo by Mike Drie*

Variety Show

Olio Acts

1. "Fat Guys Need Love Too 2," Jeremy Meyer
2. "For What It's Worth," 4for1
3. "Hey Girl," Tom Parkin and Richard Fisher

Skit - Highly Competitive

1. "Mardi Gras Charlie Brown," Phi Mu Alpha
2. "Behind the Mascot," Phi Sigma Kappa and Alpha Sigma Alpha
3. "The Bearcat Tango," Delta Chi and Sigma Kappa

Skit - Competitive

1. "Bobby Missing in Mardi Gras," Kappa Sigma and Sigma Alpha Iota

People's Choice Awards

Best Actor - Nic Vasquez

Best Actress - Billy Dexheimer

Skit - Phi Mu Alpha

Olio - Tom Parkin and Richard Fisher



Standing outside Roberta Hall at 5 a.m., band members Michelle Thomas and Amanda Atkins play their mellophones in the traditional Homecoming Walkout event. "Even though it was really early, I had a blast," photo by Theresa Chardas

At 8:30 a.m. University President Dean Hubbard and Student Senate President Emily Dix ring the Bell of '48, signifying Walkout Day. A small group of students and alumni gathered to witness the 27-year-old tradition. photo by Theresa Chardas



Band alarm **wakes**

Annual pep music continues walkout day tradition.

by Megan Heuer

The click of a drumstick started the fight song as the Bearcat Marching Band played outside residence halls in the wee hours of the morning signaling the traditional Homecoming Walkout Day.

The band began Walkout Day preparation around 4 a.m. when they walked to every resident hall and performed pep music.

Residents from each hall reacted differently to the wake-up call.

"They yell some obscenities," third year member Rudy Coke said. "They yell a lot of stuff or sometimes they cheer. It just depends on how drunk they are and how soon they just got to bed."

Some students threw more than comments out the window as the band blasted their musical reveille toward the windows of sleeping students.

"We've seen eggs, we've seen water balloons, we've seen fresh fruit and everything else. We've seen it all," fifth year member Kip Pierpoint said.

Fifth year member Samara Gilgower said to "bring it on." Things flying out the window were not a big deal to her. Gilgower once saw a naked guy run through Hudson Hall as they performed on Walkout Day.

The band made their morning march an annual event more than 15 years ago when it used to be a drumline. As years went by, other band students chose to join the morning march.

"It's tradition," Pierpoint said. "You've got to follow tradition. It's something everybody has done all the years completed up to us. We got to keep it going."

Walkout Day officially began when Student Body President Emily Dix rang the Bell of '48 at 8:30 a.m., Oct. 17.

The bell first rang for Walkout Day in 1915 at an unexpected time and students would get up and walk out of their classes. The chime signaled a day of picnics, games and the end of a five-week hazing period all freshmen endured.

"We had to wear a green beanie with our name across the bill on it, as freshman, and every time we met an M-Club member you had to kneel and put your finger on the button," Family and Consumer Science Professor Frances Shipley said.

In 1960, after years of wearing green and white beanies around campus, a few freshmen sawed off the bell clapper and held it until Student Body President Dale Cramer promised to end freshmen hazing. Cramer threatened to revoke Walkout Day if the clapper was not returned. Students returned it because no one wanted to give up Walkout Day. Six students later kidnapped and kept Cramer in an abandoned farmhouse. Before he was freed, they locked him

in a broom closet at the Nodaway County Courthouse. As punishment for kidnapping the president, upperclassmen shaved letters to spell out Bearcat into the back of the perpetrators' heads. The next year, Student Senate President Joe Merrigan announced the abolishment of hazing, but kept beanies and Walkout Day.

Walkout Day became nonexistent in 1971 because students went off campus for entertainment at various bars rather than participating in campus activities. Joe Toker Daze substituted Walkout Day. Organized activities such as Frisbee contests, car packing contests and concerts were held.

A combination of Joe Toker Daze and a day of preparation for Homecoming events reinstated Walkout Day in 1977.

"My understanding of it is that it went from something that was unexpected to now something that is very much expected. People certainly look forward to that and schedule that all in," Communication, Theatre, and Languages Professor Theophil Ross said.

After years of indecision, Walkout Day became a tradition that outlasted many generations.

"Traditions are very important. They reinforce our sense of identity," University President Dean Hubbard said. "We rang the bell 26 times because it's the 26th time it's been rung. It reminds us of students of the past."



With drums booming and horns blaring, Harry Hamblin, Jeremy Meyer, Philip Shull and Kent Pettipoint march from Perrin Hall to Hudson Hall in the wee hours of Walkout Day. photo by Theresa Chudina

Parade

Float - Highly Competitive

1. Delta Chi and Phi Mu, "Bourban Street Bobby"
2. Phi Sigma Kappa and Delta Zeta, "Bobby Visits Prehistoric Mardi Gras"
3. Alpha Gamma Rho and Sigma Kappa, "Road Trip to Mardi Gras"

Float - Competitive

1. Sigma Society, "Mardi Gras Party Pantoan"
2. South Complex and Franken and Phillips halls, "Balcany on Bourban Street"
3. International Student Organization, "Rhapsody of Carnivals"

Jalopies

1. Residence Hall Association
2. Equestrian Team
3. Amnesty International

Supremacy honors

Fraternity
Phi Sigma Kappa

Sorority
Alpha Sigma Alpha

Competitive
Sigma Society

Determination prevails

Float winners backed by hard work.

by Theresa Chiodini

A deep sense of appreciation and accomplishment welled up in members of Delta Chi and Phi Mu as judges announced Oct. 19 that the two organizations won the Homecoming float contest.

"I jumped up and down because I was so excited," Phi Mu co-chair Amanda Root said. "I was shaking and had tears in my eyes, and at the same time, I was kind of in shock that we had actually won."

At the beginning, co-chairs Root and Scott Griffin appeared confident. "I felt we had a lot to prove as a chapter, to the community and to ourselves," Griffin said.

Soon after the construction and pumping began, they found out the project would be more involved than anyone thought.

"When we first started it, we thought we were way ahead of it, but once we got into it, we realized there was so much more to do," Root said.

Most of the Greeks working on the float supported it, including Phi Mu Nicole Orrell, calling it a "good, creative idea," although Root had a different perspective.

"The theme's not very broad," Root said. "I thought we were doing something original, but then I heard about some of the other float ideas, and I realized everyone's working with the same things - jesters, beads and dragons."

Root believed it was going to boil down to who did the most with the same ideas, and it would have nothing to do with originality.

The float chairs' minds changed during the last week as everything came together.

"Now we just have small touch-ups to do, minor things," Root said with three workdays left. "Since it's crunch time we gotta get it done. I'm not really that stressed out though."

In the end, the Greeks involved gained more out of the experience than simply the honor of being chosen as the best float.

"All the hard work and determination put into this project finally paid off," Griffin said. "To feel the gratitude from members of these two chapters, and that of the community as well, is probably one of the most fulfilling experiences I think I could have as a Northwest Missouri State student."

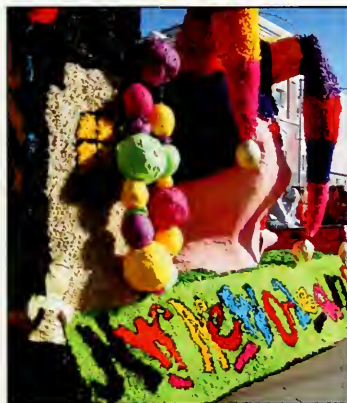


Delta Chi and Phi Mu members build the skeleton of their float. The two groups spent about four weeks constructing and pumping the float before Homecoming weekend. *photo by Theresa Chiodini*

Matt Robb paints the float with the first coat of primer the week before Homecoming. Robb, a Delta Chi pledge, spent most of his time working on the float the last few days before the parade. *photo by Theresa Chiodini*



Megan Mathews helps her sorority sister Nicole Orrell trim the pomps on a smaller sunburst to be put on the float. The finishing touches were placed on the float three days prior to the parade. *photo by Theresa Chodun*



Liz Holmes and Matt Robb pump and paint the jester head on the float. With just three days left until the parade, the group still had a lot of work to do. *photo by Theresa Chodun*

Driving in the parade, the prize-winning float heads for the judges' stands. "By the end we were all tired, but the time and sacrifices we made together was worth it," co-chair Scott Gritton said. *photo by Theresa Chodun*

Football Game

Attendance - 8,100

Penalties

NWMSU - 10 for 52
yards

MSSU - 10 for 115
yards

Don Black Award winner-Chad Bostwick

6 tackles (1 solo, 5 ast)

2 tackles for loss (8
yards)

1 interception (45 yard
return)

1 sack (8 yards)

Jamaica Rector

6 catches (159 yards,
long - 75 yards)

56% of passing yards

1 touchdown (only
passing TD)

4 punt returns (33
yards, long - 24
yards)

Josh Lamberson

16 completions, 29
attempts, 2

interceptions

passed for 249 yards (1
TD, long - 75 yards)

55% completion rate

Linebacker Ryan Bowers tackles a Missouri Southern player during a kickoff return. Bowers is a red-shirted sophomore from Omaha, Neb. photo by Mike Dye

In a match against Missouri Southern, wide receiver Adam Orte tucks away from the cluster and sprints the ball toward the Bearcat end zone. Orte eventually ran out of bounds, not only stopping the clock to buy the team more time, but to gain a first down. photo by Mike Dye



A Bobcat **trampoline**

Don Black Award given to former walk-on.

by Trevor Hayes

Parade sirens and horns broke through the murmur of voices. As the day grew warmer, crowds filled Rickenbrode Stadium to see the Bearcats win.

The Homecoming game against Missouri Southern State University looked to be a pushover with Southern limping into Rickenbrode at 1-5. Coach Rob Green assumed the reins of the Lions one week before, after head coach Bill Cooke resigned.

An upset of the No. 25 Bearcats could have provided the Lions with a needed spark to kick-start their season.

Throughout the game, Southern tried unorthodox and sometimes bizarre tactics. Their lines yelled during snap counts in order to draw Bearcats offside. On kickoffs, the Lions would start running, back up and start over again. They also tried three fake punts.

The 'Cats were on top of their game in the first quarter, and when they saw the first fake punt, they were ready. Linebacker Chad Bostwick saw the pass coming and intercepted it. He returned a 45-yard touchdown after receiving a rattling block from cornerback Darryl Ridley on a Southern would-be tackler. Bostwick's touchdown came after freshman kicker Cory Paetznick's 24-yard field goal to make the score 10-0.

The Bearcats scored again 18 seconds into the second quarter. Running back Mike Fiech capitalized on wide receiver Morris White's third blocked punt in three weeks. Fiech bulldozed through Southern's defense for an easy 8-yard run into the endzone.

The rest of the quarter was fairly quiet until the 'Cats got the ball back on their 8-yard line with about three minutes left in the second quarter. Running back Shon Wells ran for 7 yards. Quarterback Josh Lamberson threw two consecutive passes to wide receiver Jamaica Rector and Wells for 8 yards, and 2 yards. After a short time out, Lamberson fired a bullet to Rector, who slipped passed the Lions secondary and then streaked down field for a 75-yard touchdown.

"Josh made a good throw," Rector said. "It was just over the safety's head, and I just took it to the zone."

The Lions answered back with a 91-yard kickoff return for a touchdown on the next play. After kicking the ball back to the Bearcats and letting them drive 51 yards, the Lions picked off Lamberson's pass and returned it 91 yards. The touchdown quickly made it a close game at 24-14.

During the wild second quarter, scoring ended with just 20 seconds before the half. Paetznick hit a 45-yard field goal, his longest of that day.

Ecstatic over the kick, Paetznick lead the team off the field, and came on the field second after the half.

The 'Cats drove the ball into field goal range on their first two drives of the quarter. Paetznick hit both a 30-yarder and a 46-yarder, making it 33-14.

The game slowed immensely during the third quarter with eight penalties and four turnovers between the two teams. Rector and Fiech both fumbled, and Lamberson threw another interception. Southern turned the ball over after an incomplete pass on another attempted fake punt.

Penalties and turnovers plagued both teams in the fourth, but the Bearcats capitalized on a few of Southern's mistakes.

After a fumbled punt return, cornerback Jason Chinn wrapped up the ball at the Southern 23-yard line. On a short gain by Lamberson and a pair of runs by running back Mitch Herring, the Bearcats were able to make the score 40-14. Herring's 12-yard sprint came only two and a half minutes into the fourth quarter.

Bearcat starters were soon replaced by back-ups. The team didn't cross the goal line again until 1:17 left in the game. After several carries by running back Zach Sherman, the next seven points came on the legs of senior running back Bart Hardy to make it a final score of 47-14.

The Don Black award for most valuable player during the game went to Bostwick. He ended the day with six tackles, two for loss, a sack and an interception for a 45-yard touchdown. Bostwick, a former walk-on, beat out Paetznick who scored the most points with 17 including his 46 and 47 yard field goals, and Rector whose six catches for 159 yards totaled half of the team's aerial attack.

"For him to make the play that he did on the interception and score a touchdown, it really makes you feel good," head coach Mel Tjeersdema said. "It really sends a message to a lot of our young players. Here's a guy who wasn't even a scholarship player to start with. This is what can happen if you work hard, and if you believe in what your doing, and you believe in your teammates, and you believe in the program."

Tjeersdema believed his program did well. He was proud of the whole team and the flashes of brilliance they showed on Homecoming.

"It's such a big event for our students," he said. "There's a lot of things going on for the students, but that's kind of the icing on the cake—the Homecoming game, and to win that."



Tony Glover, Jason Chinn and Morris White tackle a Missouri Southern player during the Homecoming game. The Bearcats won the game 47 to 14.
photo by Mike Dye



L o s t i n t r a n s i t i o n

University students tell stories of encounters with those which have not yet crossed over and continue to haunt Maryville.

by Kara Swink

Legends of supernatural occurrences came alive during the Halloween season, but throughout the year students experienced the chilling presence of ghosts who allegedly haunt residence halls, campus buildings and fraternity houses.

Roberta Hall

Since 1952, Roberta Hall residents lived in close proximity with a former student who haunted the halls.

Roberta Hall was named in memory of Roberta Steel who died after a gas tank exploded east of the residence hall April 29, 1951. Flames were seen for 70 miles as the tank barreled into the side of the dormitory where Steel and 21 other victims were injured. Steel died later of complications from her injury.

Residents said doors and windows locked, unlocked and opened by themselves. Lights mysteriously went out and television and radios turned down. Residents also reported hearing the sounds of a piano or violin played in the basement.

Women believed if they left burn marks on room doors by using hot irons it would discourage her visit. The tradition began when Roberta's ghost tried to get into bed with a frightened student. The girl pushed her away and Roberta started dancing circles in the center of the room until she vanished, so the story goes.

Sigma Kappa member Laura Merz experienced Roberta's presence in her room.

Merz awoke at 2 a.m. to see a person's silhouette standing in front of her. As she tried to sit up, she realized her body was paralyzed.

"I felt like someone was holding me down," she said. "I tried to move my legs to kick, but I couldn't. It was really scary."

The experience lasted about 30 seconds, but Merz was terrified and could not fall asleep after the silhouette vanished.

"For a while after the experience, I was even scared to live there, but if someone else was in the room, I was all right," she said. "As long as I had the TV or lights on, things were OK."

Wells Hall

Down a winding hallway in the basement of Wells Hall, a former Tower Yearbook Photographer, Amos Wong, allegedly haunts the dark room.

Wong died in a traffic accident while traveling with his brother to meet their parents in San Francisco. The accident happened near Ft. Bridger, Wyo. Aug. 13, 1991.

Wong's parents returned to the university with his ashes to ring the Bell of '48 in his memory. Since 1991, student publication workers experienced Wong in the dark room and throughout the basement of Wells Hall.

Alumnus Josh Flaharty remembered the night Wong visited the computer lab, which later became the Northwest Missourian office.

Flaharty and two other student publication workers heard a sound come from another computer and realized the keyboard keys were typing

by themselves. As the keys began to type faster, they decided to pack up and get out.

"It scared the crap out of us," Flaharty said. "I'd heard stories about Amos, but I didn't believe them until that night. I never believed in ghosts either, but they do exist now."

Ghost stories were not confined to campus: two Maryville fraternity houses were allegedly haunted.

Delta Chi house

Probably the most famous Maryville ghost resided in the Delta Chi house located on Second and Fillmore streets. The 1890's Queen Anne-style house spanned three generations of the Townsend family.

The legend said a little girl named Lillian Townsend, or Lilly as the Delta Chi members refer to her, was the daughter of the first Townsend generation. Lillian burned to death in a house fire. The family decided to bury her body in the basement, as formal cemeteries were not set up in the area at the time.

Delta Chi member Alan Hargreaves recalled a story that circulated since 1992. Delta Chi Steve Clark stayed on the third floor of the house over Christmas break. One night, he heard the click of dress shoes patter across the floor. Clark sat up and switched the light on. Across the room sat Lillian in a white dress staring back at him. Clark turned the lights off and laid frozen for several minutes before he switched the light back on, but Lillian disappeared.

"I've never witnessed Lilly," Hargreaves said. "I live up on third floor though, and sometimes, I'll have my door open and see a white flash of light. It's weird, but I'm not scared to live there."

TKE house

A silver platter rested atop the mantle at the Tau Kappa Epsilon house in memory of pledge Slade Jackson. Jackson and his fraternity brothers headed to the 102 River for fun April 5, 1964.

The story goes, Jackson jumped from the 102 River bridge into a shallow area and landed headfirst. Those with him that night took Jackson back to the house where he later died with his head resting against the silver platter.

"Some people, including myself, do believe he haunts the house," TKE member Brent Steffens said. "There are just things that happen here that can't be explained."

Steffens recalled the night when he and his roommate, Tony were getting ready for bed. Earlier that night, candles were lit in their room, but both said before hitting the sack they blew them out. Hours later Steffens and Tony shot straight up in bed at the exact same time and looked at each other. On the other side of the room, a candle burned.

"I know it was Slade," Steffens said. "I know it, because we blew all those candles out that night."

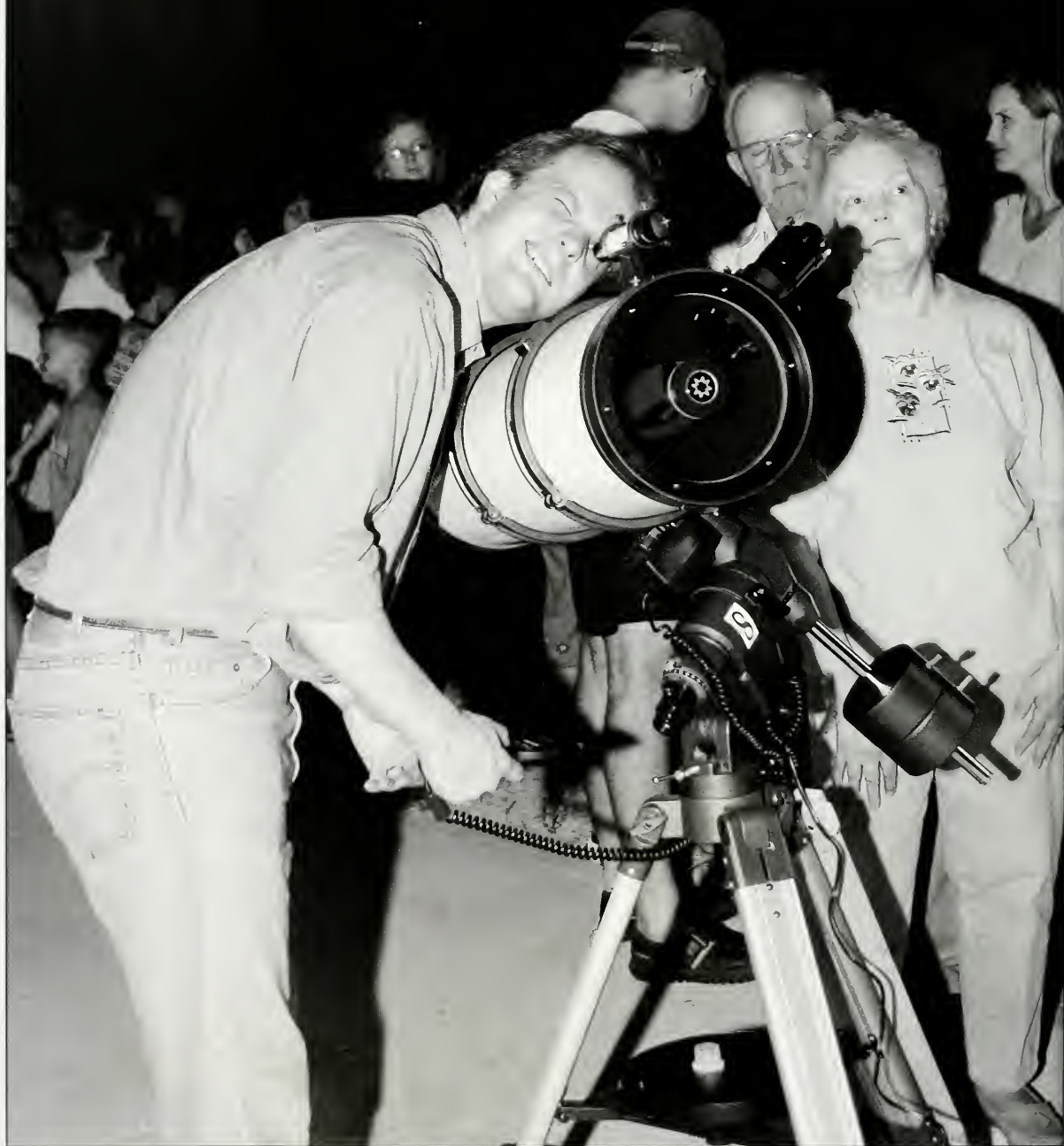
The original TKE house burnt down in 1994, and construction of the new house ended in fall 1999. Steffens said Jackson followed the members into the new house.

"I believe he followed because of the old stuff we moved in from the old house, which includes the mantle the platter sits on," Steffens said.

Throughout the years, students continued to pass down stories through generations, allowing others to believe or doubt supernatural occurrences.

Stories of the supernatural continued to dwell after years of suspicious events. Students relayed tales and experiences after the unexplainable occurred on campus and throughout the community. photo illustration by Melissa Galitz

David Richardson looks through his high-powered telescope to get a good view of Mars Aug. 27. He had to refocus the telescope numerous times because clouds blocked the view. *photo by Mike Dye*



Beyond Light years

Students and community members catch a glimpse of Mars at its closest point in 6,000 years.

by Trevor Hayes

For hours people stood outside waiting to get inside the unfinished observatory, just to see a little white dot in the sky.

The physics department hosted a public viewing of Mars in August. They expected less than 50 people, but more than 300 showed up to see Mars at its closest point to the Sun in its orbit. Mars came within 35 million miles of Earth, three times closer than the Sun.

"People have always had an interest in stars since ancient times and once in every 6,000 years it's a once in a lifetime event," Chemistry and Physics professor David Richardson said. "I was expecting mostly students, but it's a big spectrum. Students seem to be a minority."

To accommodate the large numbers four eight-inch telescopes were set outside. Those in line waited two hours to peak at the red planet with the main telescope through its 14-inch lens with computerized image.

"It shows people are interested in other things besides parties or being lazy," freshman Megan Gregory said. "It made it hard to find a parking spot, but I think it's neat."

Completed spring 2003, the observatory opened its doors to the public for the first time to view Mars. The construction of the observatory was credited to retired University Professor Jim Smelzer.

"It was a surprise to me, I didn't expect that many people," Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Physics, John Shaw said. "Given the tremendous turnout shows we need to do more public viewings in the future."

A large part of the crowd consisted of community members, but there were also 30 members from the Missouri Academy Astronomy Club.

"I wasn't expecting this many people," said Academy student Emily Bahram-Ahn. "We were afraid of dumping 30 Academy students on them, but there were already so many people here."

The large number of people at the Astronomy Club may have had the same idea.

"I thought it'd be fun," Academy student Jason Daming said. "It only happens once in a while, and there's not much to do in Maryville, so why not do the fun things?"



Ryan Eickhoff, Tamara Jimenez and Jaime Eickhoff wait patiently for their chance to get a glimpse of Mars. The observatory placed four telescopes outside for the large crowd to view the red planet. photo by Mike Dye

AMNESTY BENEFIT CONCERT

Gift of peace

'Souler-energy' bands with activists to raise money.
by Amber Brazil

A

peace activist read anti-President George W. Bush poetry, using humor and wit in a tone of urgency that stressed the importance of ending the war in Iraq. This, along with the bands who jammed progressive folk rock, brought students together in a fund-raiser for world betterment.

Maryville's student chapter of Amnesty International held their annual benefit for the national organization. In past years, the chapter donated portions from the benefit to Students for a Free Tibet and the Internal Solidarity Movement.

"The money goes to help human rights throughout the world," benefit organizer Lizzy Sexton said. "It's a way for people to do their small part to help the world and have fun as well."

The benefit took place Nov. 7 at The Pub, where entrance age lowered from 21 to 19 for the concert. Poetry from Jane Carroll of Kansas City, MO, opened the night.

Carroll spent most of her life promoting peace and often hosted similar events. She shared her views on politics and the world through spoken word and acoustic guitar. Experience in stand-up comedy and folk theater groups formed her style used to recite poetry of the world's vices such as fast food and President Bush.

"Peace is about thinking about the common good," Carroll said. "Bush is about thinking about himself and his friends. It takes more courage to do peace."

Other entertainers played at the benefit for different reasons than voicing opinions. Tabla Rasa, a tribal folk rock band from Lawson, MO., had been a staple, headline act at the Amnesty fund-raiser for three years. According to percussionist Curt Lane, they played many benefits for karma reasons. By doing things to help people out, they believed good would circle back.

Tabla Rasa believed Amnesty was a good cause, as they did benefits for the organization in Maryville as well as in Columbia, MO. Since forming in 1997, they supported many charities including Students for a Free Tibet, Habitat for Humanity and fund-raisers for Sept. 11.

Tabla Rasa gained a Maryville fan base throughout the years. Amnesty invited them back each year, because students anticipated their unique sound as a change in the usual music scene.

"We have so many different elements: real heavy percussion, heavy bass, African-style guitar," Lane said. "We coined the trademark 'souler-energy music.' We might even copyright that."

Raising Grey from Kansas City joined the "souler" tunes of Tabla Rasa as frequent touring sidekicks and friends of the band. The eclectic band incorporated a violin into their energetic vibe. Raising Grey said with no restrictions of flavor or format, their music is soulful, earthy and technical.

Maryville's own Mile 29, Matt Wright and Nathan Brooks, also joined the acts.

In The Pub's dimly lit basement, the crowd enjoyed samples of untraditional rock, celebrating peace and promoting the cause. With the charge of \$3 per person and TV shirt sales, Amnesty International raised around \$300 with the benefit.

"We didn't raise as much as we usually do," Amnesty member Amy Carr said. "They [The Pub] wouldn't let us start taking money at the door until like 9 p.m."

Carr said the profits were still being split among their charities. A definite donation went to Heifer International.

"We are giving them \$100 in the form of a trio of rabbits, a flock of chicks and a 'share' of sheep," Carr said. "These animals will go to families that need them to survive and allow communities to develop and become self-sufficient."



Joining Mile 29 for an impromptu jam session, Matt Wright plays bongos with band members Chad Gamblin and Brent Stephens. The group was one of four that played at The Pub for the Amnesty International Human Rights benefit concert. photo by Amber Brazil

Creating subtle bass lines, Aaron "Big Al" Lewis of Tabla Rasa adds a deeper tone to the eclectic sound of the Kansas City band. Working with strings since age 13, Lewis joined the group in February 1999. photo by Amber Brazil



Maryville faces Debate

Restaurants forced to throw out ashtrays to produce cleaner air.

By Michelle Stacy

A

battle between health and personal rights sparked debate throughout the community.

In June of 2003, the Maryville City Council passed a smoking ban ordinance in restaurants.

Del Simmons, 23-year owner of Simmon's Restaurant and Deli, said he was not in favor of the ordinance.

"I felt like it was taking away the rights of owners who pay rent, taxes and employee salaries," Simmons said. "It's a freedom taken away from owners to run a business the way they see fit."

Coalition Chairperson of Citizens for Smoke-Free Maryville, Teri Harr, said the coalition asked the Maryville City Council to pass the ordinance because they believed everyone had the right to breathe clean air.

The coalition met their goal of making restaurants smoke-free and a healthier place June 10.

Community Policy Specialist for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Jamie Baker said the issue of second-hand smoke created a public health concern.

"We're not asking people not to smoke only that they do it in a place where it will not affect other's health," Baker said. "When actions adverse into another person's life, then that's when laws needs to come into place."

Simmons looked at the smoking ban from a different perspective than Baker.

"Ok, smoking is a health issue and that is fine and good," Simmons said. "But people who came in [before the ordinance] knew we allowed smoking and they came anyway, but after the ordinance, the smoker's left."

Student Grant Neckermann said although he chose to eat in smoking restaurants smoke still bothered him.

"I think it's a good thing because I don't like to sit next to someone blowing smoke in my face while I'm trying to eat," Neckermann said.

Lizzie Pritchett, shift manager at Country Kitchen, said the ordinance hadn't negatively affected them.

"We haven't really lost any business," Pritchett said. "Even though we lost people who smoke more come now, because we are non-smoking. I'd say it evens out."

Simmons said that he lost many smoking customers and even construction workers that had been customers for over three years.

After the ordinance passed the City Council asked to see the Simmons' daily receipts of March through August. The receipts showed the restaurant lost \$75 to \$85 a day.

According to Simmons, the Coalition said in the open forum meetings that they would see if they could help businesses that lost money. However, Simmons said it was a broken promise.

"They weren't here yesterday, they're not here today and we won't see them tomorrow. It's all a bunch of air," Simmons said. "They did their work. They got the ordinance passed and now they're gone."

The coalition started in 1997 with the goal of reducing youth's access to tobacco. In 1998, their goal expanded to try to eliminate second-hand smoke in restaurants by asking them to voluntarily become smoke-free.

By 2002, 70 percent of Maryville restaurants were non-smoking. In the fall of 2002, the coalition asked the City Council to pass a smoke-free ordinance that would make all restaurants in Maryville non-smoking.

The City Council held an open public hearing on the issue in March of 2003. According to Harr, about 25 people attended the meeting.

"The City Council seemed open and receptive and very positive about what we were saying," Harr said. "We wanted to show the council that it is a major health issue, and that it wouldn't have a negative impact on businesses."

Simmons went to all five City Council meetings to show the council not only his rights would be taken away but that he would also lose money.

"Some nights I was the only one at the meetings fighting," Simmons said.

Despite Simmons efforts and with the help of the Coalition, on June 9, the council passed the ordinance. Public Safety officers went to each of the businesses to give the owners packets with a smoke-free establishment sticker and pamphlets with educational information about second-hand smoke.

The ordinance did not affect all Maryville restaurants. Restaurants like Gray's Truck Stop and were exempt from the ordinance because it is outside of city limits. According to Baker, stand-alone bars that served food were also exempt.

Simmons said it was unfair that bars received exemptions.

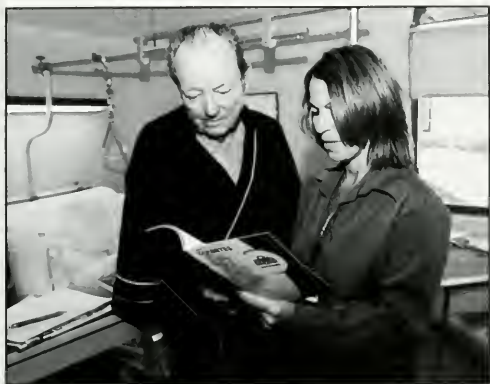
"Should I sit a whiskey bottle on the counter? No. That wouldn't be right," Simmons said. "I've been a business owner for many years and it's just not fair."

Despite resistance from some restaurant owners Baker said the coalition has seen mainly positive support from the community. She also said Public Safety has received no calls on violators.

"Once you get rid of the ashtrays and educate people of its affects, then the laws are pretty easy to enforce," Baker said.

However, Simmons and others against the ordinance are not through fighting yet. According to Simmons, Smokes 4 Less started a petition that they will try to present to the City Council. Simmons also said many customers had already signed it.

"I obey the ordinance, but I don't respect it," Simmons said. "I gave it a good fight anyway whether I win or lose."



Teri Harr, a St Francis Hospital nurse and an instrumental part of the group that started the smoking ban, looks over a diabetes pamphlet with patient J. D. Rush. "You're talking to a person who smoked for 40 years," Rush said. "I think smoking is one of the worst things that can happen to a human being." *photo by Theresa Chumala*

Due to the recent smoking ban, Stephanie New goes to Country Kitchen to eat pizza and smoke in the lounge. "I enjoy going to a place where I can eat and smoke at the same time." *photo by Mike Dye*



“
When actions
adverse into
another person's
life then that's
when laws needs
to come into
place.
JAMIE
BAKER ”

Local hunger satisfied

National franchise and Bistro heat up the neighborhood with homestyle cookin'.

by Kara Swink

M Aromas drifted through town as new establishments nestled themselves into Nodaway County.

As Northwest artifacts lined the walls, Maryville residents and students were "eatin' good in the neighborhood" with Applebee's tender chicken finger baskets and zesty riblet platters by mid-February.

Crews broke ground for the "neighborhood bar and grill" after the Applebee's franchise bought a piece of land directly south of town near Highway 71 in October 2003.

According to Executive Director for the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce Lisa Luke, she didn't believe the rumor when it started but said she was happy to see a new Maryville business.

"It's exciting and will probably draw people to town," Luke said.

The aromas also wafted toward the southwest. Behind winding turns and loose gravel laid fabulous gourmet recipes at Skidmore's Countryside Bistro. Located at 33618 Highway H, a stone path led to the Bistro's front doors and the surrounding gardens. Co-owners Eddie Heitman and Cheryl Womack offered casual and fine dining to guests within the restaurant's country-style atmosphere.

Heitman, the Bistro's founder, provided food for more than 20 years in Graham, Mo., but moved the facility when the restaurant's capacity exceeded its limits and its catering business took off.

Since the restaurant's June 15, 2003 opening, it's been serving up scavenger hunts and murder mystery dinners, which Heitman said kept guest interested and returning to "the country."

"We get people from all over," Heitman said. "They come from St. Joe, Kansas City, Bedford, Omaha, all over. Everyone always tells us they enjoy the atmosphere and how we are always changing the scenery inside."

Heitman said although guests rave about the food and the atmosphere, they always ask to see the "special room."

"Everyone is always wanting to see the men's restroom," he said. "Who would have thought a tractor mural on the north wall could draw so much attention."

A group of senior citizens gather at the Countryside Bistro for an afternoon snack. In addition to serving the public, the restaurant also hosted business meetings and weddings. *photo by Mike Dye*





Workers Bryan Hablutzel and Arron MenDinhall direct Zack Jackson on maneuvering the new Applebee's sign. The three workers are from Al Signs based out of Tennessee and travel throughout the United States. *photo by Mike Dye*



Throughout the year, the Countryside Bistro decorated for holidays. During the winter months a Christmas tree hung upside down in the main dining hall. *photo by Mike Dye*

Dive the *Midwest* Deep sea

Students and community members test the water of the university's new diving course.

by Jessica Hartly

T

he muffled sound of the instructor's voice echoed through the water as divers explored the depths of the pool without limitations.

University students, faculty and community members took part in free deep-sea diving classes at Foster's Aquatic Center offered by a professional dive team from Shawnee, Kan.

Park management and corporate wellness recreation major, Desiree Campbell, had been certified in scuba for 10 years and enjoyed the idea of giving people the opportunity to dive.

"I thought it would be a neat experience to help other people learn," Campbell said. "Scuba diving is very enlightening. It's a totally new experience, nothing you can do on land. You can breathe in a whole new world."

Scuba novices learned the basics of diving and equipment use, while wearing colorful floating vests, small oxygen tanks, goggles and other necessary equipment. After the divers felt comfortable with the equipment, they went out into the pool to explore on their own.

Two of the enthusiasts who decided to get their feet wet were a mother-daughter team, Lynda and Amanda Hollingsworth.

"It's hard to find time to do things with your parents while in college, so this was a good opportunity to do something we both hadn't tried," Amanda said.

Amanda went back for a second dose of underwater exploration. "I think it was a lot of fun and really neat not to have many limitations while swimming underwater," Amanda said.

University instructor of mathematics, Lynda Hollingsworth, agreed with her daughter that diving was a great experience.

"I thought it was a good opportunity for people to have a chance to experience scuba diving," Lynda said.

The university added the scuba class to the catalog, which gave students the opportunity to become certified scuba divers.

"I would sign up. It was a lot of fun," Amanda said. "I think it was a good opportunity; I know that I would have never had the chance to try it otherwise."



Melody Sue Sharon and Masafumi Haraguchi watch for instructions underwater as Joey Stokes heads for deeper waters. Scuba classes were held in Foster's Aquatic Center during the second block of the fall trimester. *photo by John Wiederman*



Junior Joey Stokes practices using his scuba diving equipment in the new scuba class offered on campus. "Scuba's awesome," Stokes said. "It's something you normally couldn't do in Maryville but now you have the opportunity." *photo by John Wiedenman*

“ Scuba diving is very enlightening. It's a totally new experience, nothing you can do on land. ”

Reshaping dorm Education

Harsh punishments reserved for those with alcohol.

by Jessica Schmidt

Consequences of drinking his freshmen year left an impression on Resident Assistant Joe Harris.

"There was nowhere to go, and we had nothing to do," Harris said. "So we thought we would go ahead and bring it inside."

Harris and four friends drank in Hudson Hall when someone rapped on the door. Repercussions waited on the other side rather than friends.

"We were drinking in my room when there was a knock at the door, and Campus Safety was standing there," Harris said.

According to Assistant Residential Life Coordinator Matthew Baker, Harris was one of 55 cases reported in 2002.

Convicted under university policy, the five friends each paid \$75 fine and completed an online education course called AlcoholEdu.

Harris learned from his experience and didn't let it drag him down; he became an R.A. on the fourth floor of Hudson Hall.

Harris told residents about his experience, and reported no alcohol problems on his floor.

"I really stressed on them at the first meeting of the year that I'm not advocating drinking," Harris said. "But, if they are going to drink, find a party or a place off campus; do not bring it in the dorm room."

Harris learned and grew from his experience. He also believed the experience strengthened him.

"I think any bad thing that happens to you helps shape you," Harris said. "I realized from my experience that it is just drinking, and it's not worth it."

In her two years of experience, Phillips Hall R.A. Amanda Brooker dealt with a few alcohol cases.

"I think we as R.A.s are pretty prepared for situations that arise from drinking in the dorm rooms," Brooker said. "A lot of times, it is cases where a student is drunk and think they can bring it in with them."

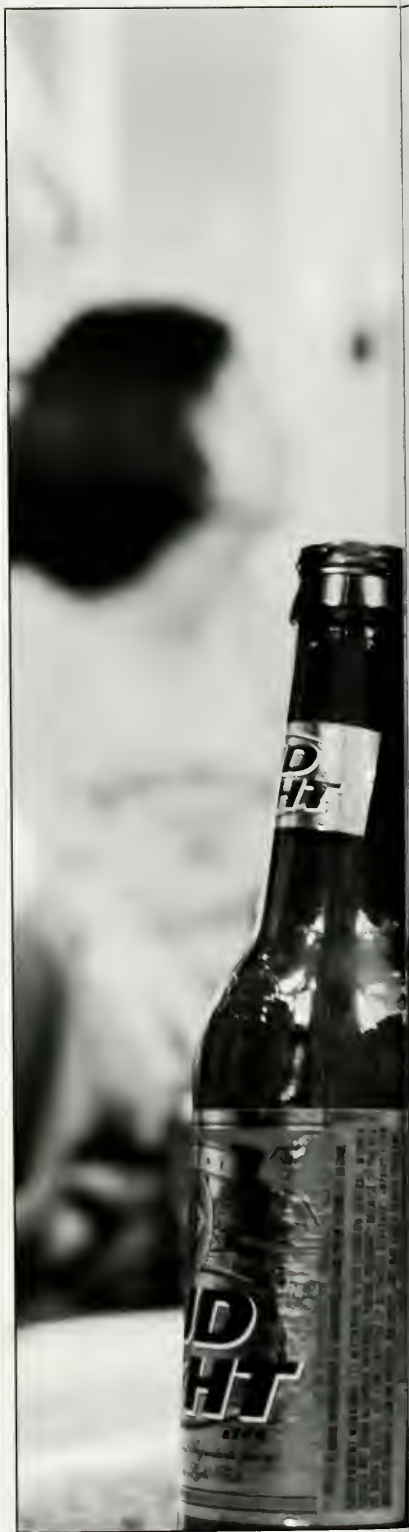
Brooker believed the policy should be reconsidered in the upperclassmen halls.

"It is very hard to tell someone that is 21 that they cannot drink legally in their own room," Brooker said.

While the issue remained to be debated, Baker believed students have to be reminded of the type of environment in which they lived.

"Wet campuses can be a nightmare, and many students that are over 21 live off campus anyway," Baker said. "We aren't naive in thinking that we catch all the activity that goes on in the rooms, but we like to believe that we have created a culture that is a learning environment."

Students that decide to drink on campus risk being caught by a Resident Assistant or another student. When an R.A. find alcohol on campus, they must file a report and see that consequences are given. *photo by Mike Dye*





Pride and emotion

Weeks reserved for fun allow a spring break from classes and time with friends

by Jessica Schmidt



Greek Week 2003, "Greeks Gone Wild," focused on Greek unity through fundraisers and competitions. "It's a time to bring all the organizations together for a week to promote Greek unity," co-chair Megan Kavanaugh said.

According to Greek Week co-chair Tony Dubolino, organizers planned Greek Week with some goals in mind.

"We wanted involvement by all the organizations, and we also wanted to welcome the two new organizations to our community," Dubolino said.

Greek Week kicked off with a philanthropy event, Mile of Money April 5. Proceeds went to the Maryville Children's Center.

The Zeus and Hera Pageant took place Monday at the Charles Johnson Theater. Zeus and Hera were elected by their organizations. Nominees performed a talent and answered questions from the judges. Dan Ayala reigned as Zues and Amy Meyer won Hera.

"I was actually really surprised when I won," Meyer said. "For my talent, I just acted out songs and used props. I didn't plan on winning at all, because it wasn't serious. It was pretty fun, because I got to wear a toga to all of my classes for the rest of the week and got to be part of all the Greek Week events."

Greeks also participated in Battle of the Sexes and fraternity ultimate Frisbee.

"I competed in the Ultimate Frisbee Competition," Sigma Kappa Erin Selgeby said. "We definitely didn't get first, but I loved it."

Other events included a pizza eating contest, free throw contest and Greek sing competitions.

Sigma Kappa Katie Hansen competed in the pizza eating contest.

"We won for Sigma Kappa by managing to eat an entire thin crust pizza."

Sigma Kappa sorority and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity won the awards in the Greek sing competition.

Greek sing produced entertainment for everyone, including those competing in it.

"Greek sing was my best memory of Greek Week, because we worked really hard and won," Sigma Kappa Megan Ellwanger said.

The Chariot race consisted of fraternities making "chariots" while sororities rode in the homemade buggies and raced them Thursday.

"The Chariot Race was the best time I had during Greek Week," Phi Mu Kristin Helmink said. "The chariot I rode in was really shaky, and I thought it was going to fall apart during the race."

Sigma Kappa sorority and the Phi Delta Theta fraternity took the Olympiad Competition Saturday.

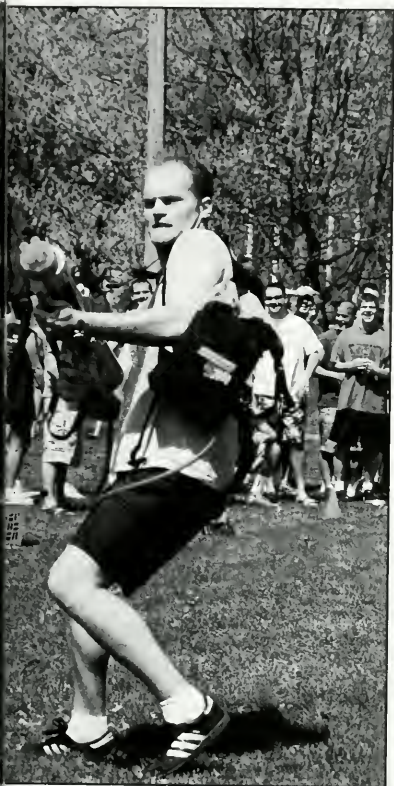
"It was really cool to win the Olympiad," Sigma Kappa Greek Week chair Kyla Foraker said. "My favorite event during the Olympiad was the Battle of the Beef, because it was just a lot of fun."

Nearing finals week in combination with bad weather sent participant numbers down.

Many believed Greek unity was still in place but strained through the hours spent practicing.

"We definitely showed Greek unity, but it was stressful because of the time involved in practicing," Ellwanger said.

The week concluded with the Greek Week awards ceremony Sunday. Overall winners for Greek Week competitions were Sigma Kappa sorority and Phi Delta Theta fraternity.



Jonathan Eades plays with a super soaker water gun during Greek Week. Eades was involved with Theta, the group that "furtheres Greek unity, getting people from rival organizations to just hang out and have fun," Eades said. *photo by Matt Frye*

With hips shaking, Laura Schwartz competes in a hoola hoop contest during Greek Week. Schwartz was a member of Delta Zeta majoring in family and consumer science. *photo by Matt Frye*



Spirit Emerged among Bearcats

by Jessica schmidt

Students and faculty celebrated Northwest Week 2003 with games, competitions, music and free food.

Twelve years ago, former Student Senate President Tom Vansaghi decided to plan a week to show appreciation for Northwest. It started out as I Love Northwest Week and later evolved into Northwest Week.

"We started I Love Northwest Week to encourage students, staff and faculty to appreciate all of the great things about Northwest," Vansaghi said.

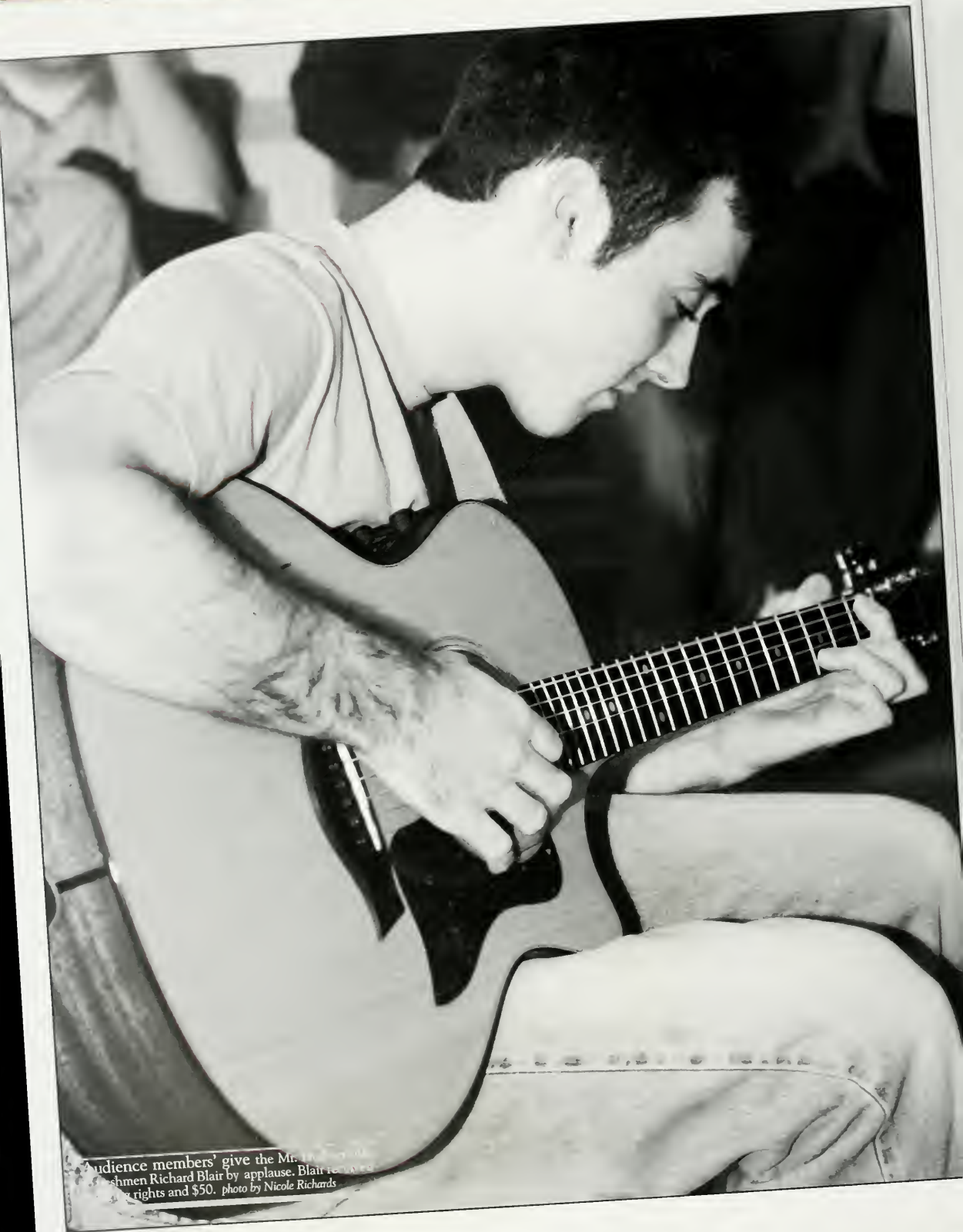
While the spring trimester seemed to drag on with lack of Bearcat pride, Vansaghi wanted to bring the university spirit of Homecoming into the spring.

"We hoped to increase school spirit and pride through a series of events and activities in the spring when there wasn't a major campus-wide event like Homecoming," Vansaghi said.

The idea of celebrating the university caught on. Northwest Week showed Bearcat pride for 12 years running.

Northwest Week 2003 kicked off with a barbecue at the Bell Tower March 31. Activities included battle of the bands, guest speakers, talent shows, pizza-eating contests and gladiator competitions.

"I'm thrilled that this event has continued for so many years and maintains much of what we had intended," Vansaghi said.



Pageant

bids farewell

Mr. Hudson crowned for the final time as residence hall begins transformations.

BY BRENT BURKLUND AND JESSICA HARTLEY

N

ot only will the nuances of Hudson and Perrin halls be permanently reconstructed but so will memories of annual traditions.

The Fifth Annual Mr. Hudson Contest had competitors parade around in bathing suits and sport dressy garb. Recent Mr. Hudson hopefuls entertained spectators with a mix of singing, acrobats and stand-up comedy.

Hudson Hall Director Heather Smith believed the pageant would be missed since it provided a break from homework each spring trimester and gave students a chance to become involved in hall activities.

"I thought (Mr. Hudson) was a wonderful event. Everyone had a good laugh," Smith said. "There were a lot of people out to support their friends."

Most participants entered the contest at the last minute, including the winner.

"Getting people to do it was a problem," hall council member Dan Novelli said. "A lot (of the participants) agreed to take part that day."

With seven men and one woman in the running, audience reaction determined the victor.

"It was very spontaneous. I was surprised to win; I don't have the best body," Richard Blair said.

The talent contest earned Blair bonus points when he sang a humorous love song, "Anyway You Are," he wrote the week prior.

Blair said because since most of the candidates were friends, the atmosphere of the event was not competitive. Mr. Hudson provided an opportunity

for men to partake in a different aspect of competition.

"It's a chance for the guys to be a part of a beauty pageant instead of the typical female," Smith said.

The tradition of Mr. Hudson, as well as the physical appearances to Hudson and Perrin residence halls, permanently changed due to deteriorating facilities.

In order to keep up with on-campus housing competition at other schools, a 15-year Residential Life Master Plan was developed and approved July 2002. The first phase dealt with the construction of suites and apartments. Phase II regarded the metamorphosis of the area where Hudson and Perrin halls were located.

Director of Residential Life Mark Hetzler said a parallel could be drawn between on-campus renovations and real estate.

"Much like a house or other property, you have to do constant updates," Hetzler said.

As far as what would be standing in the place of Hudson and Perrin, Hetzler was uncertain.

Hetzler discussed constructing multiple buildings and complexes or rebuilding Hudson and Perrin Halls. Careful research of the cost and benefits kept decisions at bay.

Hetzler said the anticipated development would be completed fall 2006.

"What we are looking for with these renovations is what gives us a final product that students will be happiest with," Hetzler said.

Not a Color Thing

Overcoming obstacles of interracial dating provides for a long lasting relationship.

by Amber Brazil

As they cuddled on the couch, played with their puppy and finished each other's sentences, it was clear as black and white that this was a strong, devoted relationship.

But black and white did not define it.

For three years and counting, Jeff Hagan and Carla Pollard lived their lives in an interracial relationship. Through ups and downs, they were very much in love and talked about marriage. While they never doubted their relationship, it took some convincing for others to accept.

"We don't look at it as a color thing," Pollard said. "We're just dating."

At first, Hagan's parents had trouble seeing past Pollard's black skin. Hagan, who is Caucasian, grew up in the farming community of Savannah, Mo., where interracial couples were far from the norm. His parents disliked the idea of their relationship going beyond casual dating.

"I just told my dad, 'you've been okay with others I've dated, so be open-minded and don't judge her before you meet her,'" Hagan said. "Now they get along real well. He's just an old-fashioned farm boy."

While Hagan and Pollard hurdled the parent-acceptance obstacle, other interracial couples looked for outside help.

"In regards to interracial relationships, the main reason people come to us is because their parents won't accept this, so we offer tips," Counseling Center Director Liz Wood said. "There are no set steps to solving this problem, as we have to take every situation individually."

Wood said a couple may have just had general relationship problems but sought outside help

because objections by parents and others compounded issues.

Other objections included those from peers. Though the university always boasted itself as a diverse campus, Pollard said an interracial couple walking hand-in-hand invited whispers.

"People stare at us on campus all the time like we're crazy," Pollard said. "But I never pay attention to what people say."

Hagan even had black males approach him about dating 'their kind.'

"I've had random black guys come up to me and be like, 'I ain't mad at ya,'" Hagan said. "To me it's funny."

If peers and friends did not accept an interracial couple, Wood encouraged them to associate themselves with supportive people.

Hagan and Pollard felt fortunate they had understanding close friends. Pollard, who attended a mostly Caucasian high school in Council Bluffs, Iowa had primarily white acquaintances.

"My friends would have been more shocked if I'd have come home with a black guy," Pollard said.

Pollard's family accepted the relationship from the beginning. Her older brother had already married interracially and started a family years before.

With support backing Hagan and Pollard, the future looked bright. A year-and-a-half into the relationship, they moved in together and adopted their first kid—a Jack Russell Terrier puppy named Sadie. Engagement was on the horizon.

"We've looked at rings, but he always turns away," Pollard said, elbowing Hagan in the side as he shyly bowed his head.



Jeff Hagen and Carla Pollard play with their puppy. The couple shared many responsibilities as their relationship progressed steadily through sharing a home and discussing an engagement. *photo by Mike Dye*



Jeff Hagen and Carla Pollard walk hand-in-hand on campus after three years of building their relationship. While Pollard previously dated other races, this was Hagen's first interracial relationship. *photo by Mike Dye*


“

People stare at us on campus all the time like we're crazy. But, I never pay attention to what people say.

CARLA POLLARD

”





Releasing stresses from everyday activities you gathered together for a fresh look at yourselves and what you were looking to accomplish Through choreographed movement, song and laughter you released the stresses of work, classes and responsibilities.

Datelines Breaking away from the ordinary Peer Education began "Thursday Nights at the Union" featuring punk bands, karaoke, spa night and other activities.

Encore engaged audiences and brought the magic of Broadway with Andrew Lloyd Webber's Tony-award winning musical "Cats" in December for a mere \$20. Long hours of preparation within the theater and music department distracted you from the daily grind with laughter

and tears. *Headlines* Students entertained the stage with Improv ala Mode, Zoo Story, Hedda Gabler and the Freshman/Transfer showcase.

Visiting talents hypnotists Michael C. Anthony and Jim Wand also placed students in the limelight with subconscious trickery, and in February, Comedy Central's "Insomniac" host Dave Attell stayed up late and performed in front of a sold out crowd.

Rachael Chase and Stephanie Trester entertain students on karaoke night. "Thursday Night at the Union" offered students karaoke as one alternative alcohol-free event *photo by Mike Dye*

Modern folk dancers dazzle audience

SIBERIAN DANCE COMPANY

BY THERESA CHIODINI

The Krasnoyarsk National Dance Company of Siberia stepped off the stage to resounding echoes of applause. For two hours, Siberian folk dances with a modern twist dazzled and entertained.

The dancers displayed award-winning talent on the Mary Linn Performing Arts Auditorium through energetic choreography and colorful costumes, transforming the stage with whirling skirts and shuffling feet.

"It was excellent," John Wilcox said. "I have never seen anything like it. They were superb dancers."

Mikhail Godenko founded the company in 1960 and directed it until 1991. After its conception, the company toured more than 60 countries, traveling extensively in the United States.

Known as a talented director and artistic choreographer, Godenko led the dance company to win several awards, including the Prize of the Leninist Komsomol in 1970 for choreography and the honor of being the laureate of the 10th World Festival of Youth and Students in Berlin in 1973.

Members of the Northwest Dance Company enjoyed watching others take the stage.

"I couldn't believe the expression used in the dances," student dancer and choreographer Danielle Freemyer said. "My favorite parts were the costumes and the variety of dances."

Performing a total of 17 pieces throughout the night, the dancers depicted weddings, great battles and a long-standing tradition of gypsy dances. Other pieces had a less

dramatic plot line, portraying genre scenes of a barnyard or a girl daydreaming at a well. However, the dancers lost nothing in the way of energetic moves and content.

"The energy and technique of the dancers and choreography was unbelievable," student dancer and choreographer Tiffanie Birdsong said.

Others felt compelled by the power and grace of the dances they experienced.

"This has given me inspiration and motivation to be more energetic and put more into the dances that I do," student choreographer and dancer Ashley Tyser said.

Tyser also learned ways to improve individual techniques and ideas for compiling other dances with the Northwest Dance Company.

"A lot of the gymnastic stuff stands out to me," Tyser said. "Also, everyone had such stage presence and was always as one. They looked like they were walking on air."

While impressed by the dances, Freemyer, who usually worked with jazz techniques, felt differently about using the Siberian Dance Company for inspiration.

"It was folk dancing," Freemyer said. "The tricks were so hard that you have to be at a certain level to accomplish them. It would be really hard to take all of that and use it here."

While some took away knowledge and experience, others left Mary Linn with an overall sense of contentment.

With glowing smiles and glittering costumes, the women of the Siberian Dance Company take the stage for the first dance of the evening entitled "My Siberia." The dance, based on traditions in folklore, was made to remind the viewer of the majesty and power of Siberia. *photo by Theresa Chiodini*





Amid flourishing shawls and skirts, the two main dancers meet during "My Siberia," the opening piece of the night. All the dances of the evening were performed in the spirit of the native people of Siberia, with ranging emotions including humor, suffering and romance. *photo by Theresa Chaudin*

Throwing his legs in the air, a member of the dance company performs with his male counterparts filling the background in a dance entitled "Siberian Fun." The dances performed used several themes such as this one to illustrate the Siberian lifestyle and culture. *photo courtesy of Columbia Artists Management, Inc.*



With freshman Evan Ross clinging to his back and grinning, freshman Trevor Hayes maintains his stature during a game called Slide Show. The two actors were roommates, went to Oak Park High School together and planned on leading the group in the future. *photo by Mike Dye*



Bathed in blacklight, freshman Megan McConnell prepares for a dance during "Noir Reality." The cast of the show wore hearts pinned to their bodies and after each heart was broken, they ripped it off and let it fall to the ground. *photo by Mike Dye*



Blackbox perspective

IMPROV A LA MODE

BY MICHELLE STACY

Laughter and sadness captivated audience members as students performed different styles of theater.

Students and community members were turned away after the Mary Linn Blackbox seating sold out for "Improv a la Mode" and "Noir Reality" in early October.

The show differed from regular theater. The show used audience participation and improvisation by actors.

The show started like the gameshow "Whose Line is it Anyway?" A host introduced "Improv a la Mode" and then three improv members on each team explained the different parts of the game.

The actors competed in games such as "Do Run," where audience members shouted out names and actors performed a rhyming song with the name. Other games included audience interaction with the team by placing two actors in different positions. A story unfolded from the strange, yet amusing, positions the actors were put into.

"I really liked how the show was more intimate than most," Tiffanie Birdsong said. "I'd say they did very well with the crazy prompts they were given by the audience."

Although the actors performed improvisation, the show did not come together without practice. According to "Improv a la Mode" member Evan Ross, the group rehearsed about twice a week for a month.

Student actors also entertained the audience with "Noir Reality" a student piece written by interactive digital media major Nick DelSignore. The show was about two high school students who started developing feelings for each other as graduation neared.

DelSignore's piece used mostly blacklight as its stage lighting. To utilize the lighting technique, actors also used baby powder on their skin to glow. Bright colors were added to their clothing and props. DelSignore said he got the idea when he saw the Blue Man Group perform in Chicago.

"I wanted people to see that there are different aspects of theater," DelSignore said. "Theater varies with different looks, and there are many types of theater venues."

Actors pantomimed the entire play, which gave the show another unique detail.

"I've never seen theater like that," Birdsong said. "It was cool to see the actors express themselves only through movement."

Although the strong expressions and movements entertained the audience, one actress said silent acting was not easy.

"It was a challenge to find movements that show the emotions we wanted to get across to the audience," said Kristen Edwards, who played the mother.

With time and hard work, both shows entertained audiences while providing different theater styles.

In front of a sold-out crowd, freshman Scott Bosley gestures at senior Pamela Leung to get off the stage. Bosley joined one week before performance after an actor quit the team. *photo by Mike Dye*



Individuals exhibit comical action

MICHAEL C. ANTHONY, HYPNOTIST

BY KARA SWINK

With a snap of his fingers shoulders dropped, a state of relaxation set in and 30 students were under Hypnotist Michael C. Anthony's control.

As students listened to the sound of Anthony's voice, background noise faded away. The audience's laughter became a conscience state of mind and the imaginary dictionary lying in their left hand became heavier and heavier. Students with priceless facial expressions agonized over keeping the dictionary suspended in air.

But the true test of strength came when hands locked together and volunteers tried to pry them apart. However, the harder they pulled the tighter the grip. With tears of pain streaming down faces, knuckles turned white and hands looked as if they were about to explode from the blood profusely pumping through their veins.

Finally, the agony ended as Anthony brought volunteers back to a state of reality with another snap of his fingers and a countdown of 3-2-1.

As hands separated and confusion washed over faces, Anthony turned to the audience and smiled.

"We're now going on to the really stupid stuff," Anthony said.

Anthony next took students into a fifth-grade classroom through hypnosis where they were learning about calculus and quantum physics.

"My name is Mr. Anthony, and you hate my guts," Anthony said.

Each time Anthony would turn his back and pretend to write equations on a board, volunteers stood up making faces and sat down right before he turned around.

Students kept the audience entertained by yelling comments such as, "I hate you Mr. Anthony" and using obscene gestures to show pent-up frustration.

"It's hilarious to see the things people do," Anthony said. "Being hypnotized is like being in a movie or a book, because you are in a different state of mind."

Throughout the show, Anthony selected volunteers who weren't under a deep hypnosis to return to their original seats. Anthony worked with seven individuals quite closely who responded to his every word.

Anthony had the crowd roaring after he placed volunteer's mindset on the ocean. He explained that everyone looked extremely "buff" in the hot summer sun. But as the temperature began to rise, up to 120 degrees, Anthony instructed them to find their oxygen masks and breathe into them.

"Keep taking long, deep breathes," he said. "Too bad they don't know they're breathing into their shoes."

Volunteer Josh "Seattle" Hoover gained the proud nickname Cha-Cha, after Anthony hypnotised him into thinking the name was carried down through his family. However, Anthony enjoyed getting Cha-Cha riled up by calling him such names as Caw-Caw and Chi-Chi.

"Man it's Cha-Cha. Damn, get it right," Hoover yelled.

"All right, all right. I'll remember for next time," Anthony said. "Cha-Cha?"

"Yeah, man. C-H-A hyphen C-H-A. Cha-Cha," Hoover said.

Other hypnosis acts included a human seat belt, a belt that turned into a snake and broom dancing.

"I like (hypnosis) because it keeps me from getting a real job," Anthony said with a chuckle. "I like traveling and entertaining people. I can't think of anything else I would rather be doing, well, besides being a rock star. They seem to have it pretty good."





While some fall asleep standing, others sprawl over each other in the long line of student participants in Michael C. Anthony's performance, including students Lisa Digiovanni and Justin Bush. "I could remember everything; it was like a feeling that you know what you're doing but you don't care," Digiovanni said. *photo by Mike Dye*

Shrugging her shoulders Lisa Digiovanni tries to answer questions asked by hypnotist Michael C. Anthony. "It's very weird and I never really believed in it, until I experienced it; some of my friends are still skeptical," Digiovanni said. *photo by Mike Dye*

Shirtless and shoeless, freshman Josh "Seattle" Hoover sprawls out on students while under hypnosis. Hoover said he wasn't embarrassed. "That's part of my everyday life; I always make a fool of myself." *photo by Mike Dye*

Quickest Draw in the Midwest

USBANK ATM CASH GRAB

BY JESSICA TASLER

As the hand slowly reached into the box, the crowd waited to hear whose name would be pulled to compete in the showdown between man and machine.

Luckily for freshman Mallory Webster, the machine was an ATM machine. In 2 minutes, Webster won \$200 at USBank's ATM Cash Grab Jan. 15 at the Student Union.

The event allowed students to register the week before at Maryville's USBank verification or the Student Union. The night

of the event, students who registered arrived with hopes of hearing their name called. Upon hearing her name, Webster was given an ATM card, a PIN number provided by USBank and a couple minutes to remove up to \$200 from the machine. Webster heard about the opportunity through signs and a floor meeting at Perrin Hall.

"I saw signs for it but couldn't find where I could sign up," Webster said. "I was in the Union one day and saw the table near the cafeteria, so I put my name in."

The night of the cash grab, Webster arrived at the second floor of the Union just before the event began, thinking her chances of winning were minimal.

First, names were drawn for door prizes then put back into the box for a chance at the big prize. Webster, who won a door prize, was surprised when her name was called again.

"I was like 'Thank you Jesus!' I was really excited," Webster said.

With trembling fingers, Webster began her race against time in front of an excited crowd.

"There was too many people around me and like 200 cameras going off. That is what made me really nervous," Webster said.

With time racing against her, Webster inserted the special ATM card, punched in the PIN number, hit the 'Fast Cash \$40' option and waited for cash to be ejected and the receipt to print. Once the process was completed, she started over as fast as she could.

Event coordinator Tracy Smith, a branch manager for USBank, coached Webster from the sidelines.

"It was funny because she was quick to punch in the numbers; she had quick fingers, but she had to wait each time for the money to come out and the receipt to print," Smith said.

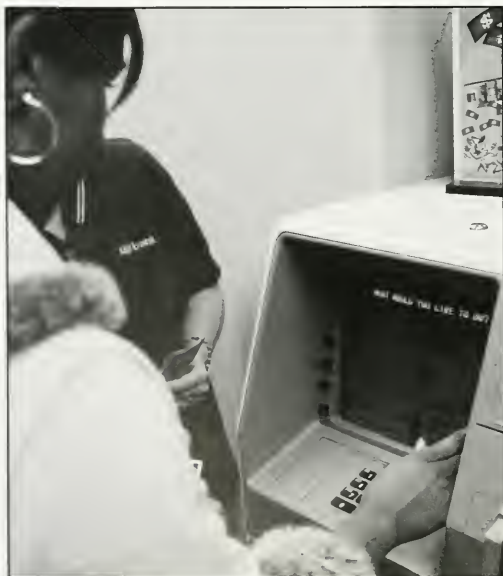
Just before two minutes were up, Webster hit the \$200 mark.

"There was just a couple of seconds left when she got up to \$200. She was just in time," Smith said.

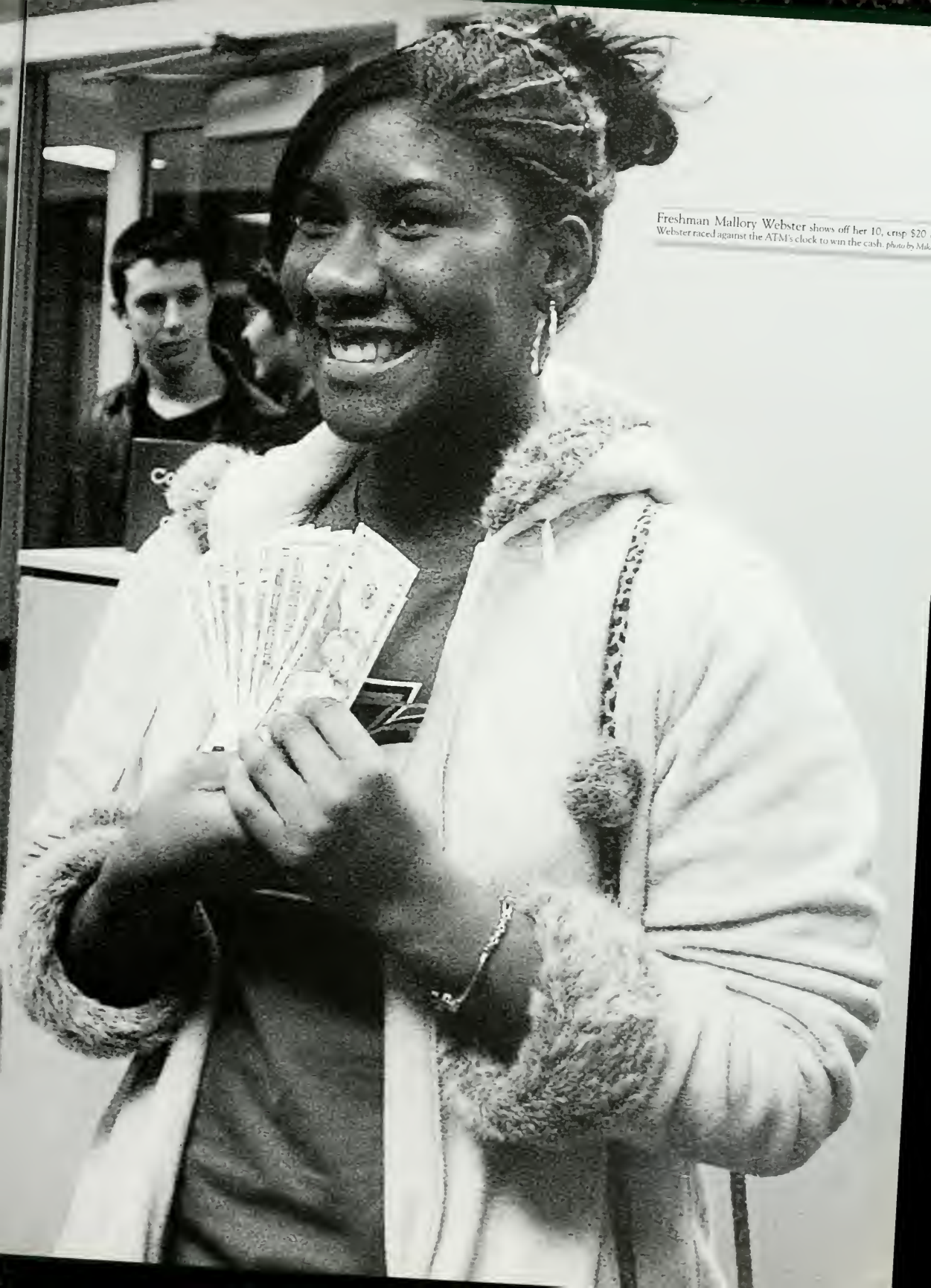
With the night such a success, Smith hoped to make the ATM Cash Grab an annual event.

She believed it not only gave a lucky student the chance to win money, but helped USBank further their partnership with the university.

"The cash grab is not only great (public relations) for us, but it really gives us the chance to get out on the campus and meet the students," Smith said. "Besides, it's just a lot of fun."



Freshman Mallory Webster prepares to withdraw cash at the ATM Cash Grab sponsored by USBank Jan. 15. Webster withdrew cash for two minutes in \$40 intervals. photo by Mike Dye



Freshman Mallory Webster shows off her 10, crisp \$20. Webster raced against the ATM's clock to win the cash. photo by Mike

Words of Wisdom

DISTINGUISHED

LECTURE

SERIES

BY JESSICA SCHMIDT AND JUSTIN BUSH

Encore Performance's Distinguished Lecture Series brought two intellectuals to campus to offer students and community members the opportunity to hear from former White House and Cherokee Nation leaders.

Former National Security Adviser of the Clinton administration, Leon Fuerth spoke Oct. 1 in the Mary Linn Auditorium.

"I didn't come with a canned speech," Fuerth said. "Every time I perform in front of an audience, I see it as an opportunity to try something fresh."

Fuerth spoke about economics, foreign trade, national security and America's outlook on terrorism after Sept. 11. He discussed how the tragedy increased federal spending and created the cabinet position of Homeland Security.

"The terrorism risk was first addressed at the end of Bush 41 (George H. Bush, 41st president)," Fuerth said. "A document was drafted on how to deal with the threat of terrorism after the fall of the USSR (former Soviet Union) and that it may become necessary to use preempted strikes. That document was put away, and the events of Sept. 11 brought it back to life."

Fuerth discussed, Iran and North Korea, the other two countries President George W. Bush referred to as 'the axis of evil.' He also stated the United States must address the situation in those two countries much differently than they approached the conflict in Iraq.



Leon Fuerth spoke about changes made in American government after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Fuerth was the former National Security Adviser for the Clinton administration. photo by Theresa Chiodini

"It would not be good for the world if Iran and North Korea were to become nuclear threats," Fuerth said. "The U.S. cannot stop them alone. We need major international help if the two countries are going to be pressured to disarm."

Richard Fulton, professor of history, humanities, philosophy and political science, viewed Fuerth's visit as a valuable insight of how tough, national security decisions were made.

"He was in the heart of the Clinton administration, so I think that everything that he said was pretty interesting," Fulton said. "He talked about what goes on in the inner circles. To be able to see and understand how these decisions are made is very important."

Even though students found Fuerth's information insightful, some believed he presented a lot of unanswered questions.

"He had a lot of good ideas and theories," Dan Nowosielski said. "But he didn't really offer any solutions or thoughts as to what needed to be done about certain issues."

Wilma Mankiller, while her name implied otherwise, offered positive female leadership in a 'man's world.' Mankiller became the first female elected president of the Cherokee tribal council and deputy principal chief as well as the first female principal chief of the Cherokee Nation.

Mankiller wrote a book on her experiences, and worked as an activist for American Indian people to help maintain culture and languages. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her efforts.

Raised in poverty, Mankiller was one of 11 children with an Irish mother and a Cherokee father. Mankiller said her parents made the best of their situation.

At age 11, her family participated in a relocation program through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. They moved to Hunter's Point in San Francisco.

"We moved to California believing that it would be a better life, it was not a better life at all," Mankiller said.

Mankiller began attending the Volunteer San Francisco Indian Center after school where a woman said she saw "promise" in her. The encouragement led to her work for the Indian nations.

"I was always a follower, I would find men with the same ideas as me and then stand behind them," Mankiller said. "After awhile, you get sick of having better ideas than the men."

Mankiller said the riskiest thing she did was stand-up for her ideas. During her time as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, many great improvements were made. The budget doubled, tribal membership tripled and services to families and children improved.

During her lecture, she discussed many of the issues facing today's Native American nations. She said one of the biggest problems is capturing the "lifestyles, culture and languages that are slipping away."

Sense of community has always been important to the Native American nations and Mankiller said they must keep their "duty to one another."

Former female principal chief of the Cherokee Nation told audience members how she overcame stereotypes to make it to the top. Wilma Mankiller served as a principal chief for eight years. photo by Mike Dye



Midnight Enchantment

MOSCOW FESTIVAL BALLET CINDERELLA

BY SARAH SWEDBERG

Dancing seasonal fairies and a fairy godmother brought to life a classic child's fairy tale minus the mice.

Northwest Missouri residents experienced an evening in February away from the outdoor cold and snow to enjoy the legend of Cinderella at the Mary Linn Auditorium in the Performing Arts Center.

The Encore Performance Series featured the Moscow Festival Ballet's version of Cinderella. Dancers showcased their picturesque movement through spins and leaps. Their colorful and individualistic apparel completed each dancer's character.

Each scene was designed with a range of vibrant colors that mirrored the mood of the scene.

In front of the set, a sheer curtain colored the stage then swept away revealing drab kitchens or ornate ballrooms.

Maryville resident Ellen Kaler said she enjoyed the ballet with all the dancers' colorful costumes, the impressive design of the painted scenic drops and the visual spectacle of the lights.

"(The dancing), it's very strong and graceful," Kaler said. "How high they can jump, it's amazing."

Kaler also said the Moscow Festival Ballet's version of Cinderella had some differences that set it apart from the well-known Walt Disney version.

The ballet's version of Cinderella, in comparison to Disney's, showcased dances from the fairies of four seasons. Each character's costume color mimicked the season she represented.

The ballet's version also had princesses and ambassadors from four different countries such as Russia, China, Spain and Mauritania. Dancers dressed representing the colors and traditional style of clothing from their country. All ambassadors and princesses wore elegant and elaborate clothing that displayed the wealth of each character.

Both Hannah and Alyse Whitmore, 6-year-old twins from St. Joseph, said their favorite part of the ballet was when the prince and Cinderella danced together. They also liked the fairies and Cinderella's pretty dresses.

The Whitmore twins, their mother, sister Lanae and their grandparents Dennis and Margaret Maynard drove 60 miles in the snow to experience the twin's first ballet.

"We wanted to bring the girls to this ballet to experience the true art of it," Dennis said. "The ballet was top notch with its beautiful music and dancing."

Cinderella's evil step sisters, portrayed by Anna Uckhiyudora and Alexandra Zenkovich, cause havoc for Cinderella when she wants to go to the ball. The sisters brought humor into the ballet, constantly bickering amongst one another. *photo by Mike Dye*





Cinderella, danced by Tatiana Shevetsora, fantasizes about the prince's ball while she dances. Her fairy godmother brought her a beautiful dress and glass slippers to wear to the ball. photo by Mike Dye



The jester Alexander Primegin welcomes Cinderella to the prince's ball. The jester brought humor to the elegant ballet. photo by Mike Dye



Cinderella's fairy godmother brought the fairies of four seasons to perform for Cinderella. Each fairy performed a solo in honor of Cinderella. photo by Mike Dye

Sarcastic comedy steals the show

ROGERS & TOSH, COMEDIANS

BY MICHELLE STACY

Two comedians entertained students and community members in mid-September with jokes at Charles Johnson Theater.

Although only a small number attended, comedians Kivi Rogers and Daniel Tosh kept the audience roaring in laughter.

"Both guys were hilarious," Anne Gordon said. "It's fun to have comedians come from big cities to Maryville."

Rogers and Tosh previously headlined on shows such as "The Tonight Show," "Comedy Central Presents" and "Everybody Loves Raymond."

The comedians stopped in Maryville during their long annual tour, which consisted of about 550 shows Tosh said. Even with a busy show schedule, after 10 years, he still enjoyed his job.

"I get to make a lot of money, I get to sleep a lot and I get juice boxes," Tosh joked.

During the first half of the show, Rogers humored audience members with growing up with a cheap father and kids facing racism in society. Tosh's performance had a different comical style than Rogers' animated approach.

"He was nonstop," said student Steven Goff. "He just kept going with nothing really to say, but it was so funny."

Tosh rambled from one topic to another spouting out random comments. At one point, he turned to the microphone stand and called it a "skinny, bulimic freak."

"He talked how I think sometimes," Goff said.

Tosh used a dry and sarcastic style in his jokes. He made it sound like he was serious, which, in-turn, made the audience cackle harder. He did not use transitions between his material or talk about things in daily life like most comedians.

"I thought he was awesome," Burlington Junction resident Kevin Gast said. "He broke the shell of a typical comedian."

Although the two comedians entertained in different ways, the audience members left the theater with aching stomach muscles and new jokes to tell their friends.

Comedian Kivi Rogers entertains students with his act at Charles Johnson Theater as part of a two-comedian show. Rogers participated in HBO's 1996 Comedy Arts Festival and held cameo appearances in TV shows such as "Home Improvement" and "Everybody Loves Raymond." photo by Mike Dye





Strange connection reaps tragic finale

THE ZOO STORY

BY JESSICA HARTLEY

The park was still except for the flickering street lamps, the occasional whisper of fallen leaves and the stories of a man who gave up everything he never had.

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee wrote "The Zoo Story" performed Oct. 23 and 24 at Charles Johnson Theater.

With only a two person cast, the production featured Reid Kirchoff as Jerry, an estranged man that rambled about his experiences to Peter, played by sophomore Michael Ortiz.

Peter, an upper-class publisher, became frightened by Jerry's tales of dog murders and raunchy, lustful landlady's. As an orphan, Jerry hadn't established intimacy with the people in his life. He went to the park to find a connection and came upon Peter, who listened to him and stayed with him to his end.

As the day came to a close, and Peter started to leave, Jerry encouraged him to stay. As Jerry continued his stories, he tried to force Peter out of his seat, but Peter wouldn't have it. During the argument, Jerry dropped a knife at Peter's feet. After Peter picked it up, Jerry ran into the knife, forcing Peter to assist in his suicide.

According to Kirchoff, the play focused on the clash of two worlds.

"Jerry's dilemma, his entire life, is that he never, ever made any contact with anybody," Kirchoff said. "So, you got these two, polar opposite beings confronting each other."

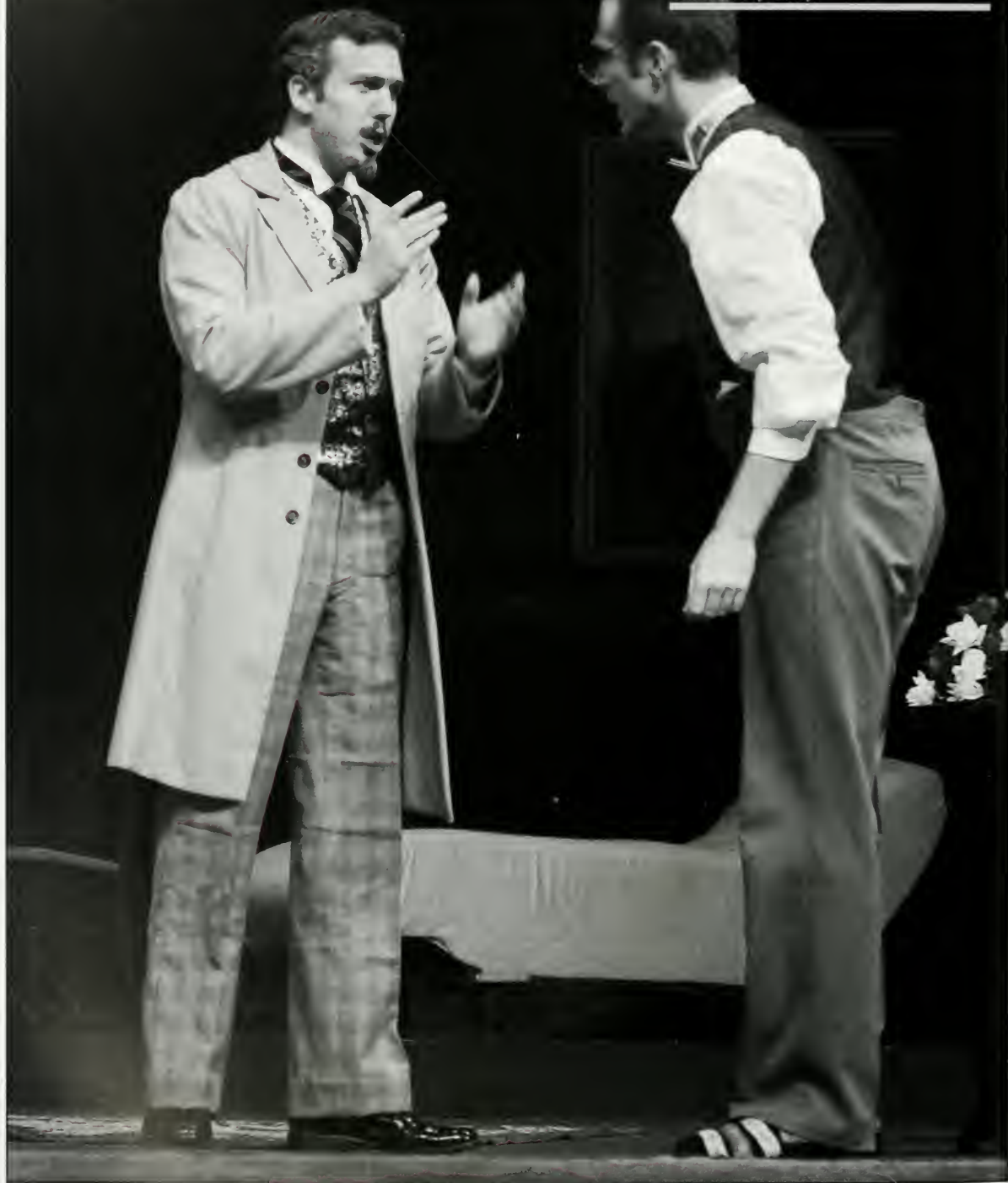
Kirchoff proposed "Zoo Story" for his senior project because it allowed the designers artistic freedom with the set, lighting and costumes. He also wanted to portray a new type of character. According to Kirchoff, the cast brought an intimate setting that made it more focused and disciplined.

"What the audience gets from this, the two of you had to create," Kirchoff said. "It was much more challenging and much more intense than I had ever done before."

Jerry, played by Reid Kirchoff, relates his life to an intimate crowd of students and professors. Based on a play written by Edward Albee, Kirchoff and others updated some of the dialogue to touch a more modern audience. photo by Mike Dye



Characters Judge Brack and George Tesman discuss business amongst each other. "Hedda Gabler" runs Nov. 13-16 at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. Photo by Mike Dye



Audience molds own interpretation

HEDDA GABLER

BY JESSICA HARTLEY

Old flames and friends entered into the newlyweds' home, bringing memories and tragedy that filled the house with scandalous adventures.

"Hedda Gabler," written by Henrik Ibsen, was performed at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center Nov. 13-16. Character Hedda Gabler, played by sophomore Hannah Barfoot, was a rigid, unhappy woman who married a cowardly gentleman.

"Hedda's character is cold and cruel," freshmen Kari Taylor said. "She is pressured by society to have control of people around her, because she has no control of her own emotions."

While society controlled individual freedoms, Hedda tried to break through the barriers society wouldn't allow her to have.

While trying to survive within the general public, Hedda married in hopes of acquiring success; however, her marriage never prevailed.

"Hedda Gabler was one of the best female parts ever written," Barfoot said. "Most actresses would kill for a chance to play her, and I was ecstatic for the opportunity."

Barfoot said most of the play's context was implied and the audience had to personally interpret the different relationship aspects throughout the play, because the characters never directly said what they meant. It was up to the audience to interpret different body language and the context of the play.

"Ibsen left a lot of things up for speculation," Barfoot said.

Sophomore Patrick Robbins played George Tesman, Hedda's husband. Tesman was a charming, intelligent young scholar. He tried very hard to please his young wife and often did not realize how she manipulated him.

"That was the most challenging, yet rewarding experiences I've ever had," Robbins said. "A lot of time and focus had to be put into George Tesman."

Robbins encouraged students and residents to attend university productions as a way of expanding "their knowledge and appreciation for the art of theater."

Assistant Professor of Communication, Theatre, and Languages Mike Morris directed the production.

"One of the best things about it is that even though the play was very difficult, we were never told how to portray our characters," Barfoot said. "He would give

us choices to think about, and we would be the ones to make the decisions."

Morris made it a point not to halt the actor's creativity. Freshmen Amanda Hall said they did an exceptional job with the play.

"Portraying characters through body language is what makes or breaks it, and these actors definitely pulled it off," Hall said.

Robbins said through the long hours of practice, the cast worked well together and put in 100 percent.

"I believe the final production was something Henrik Ibsen himself would have been proud of," Robbins said.

Hedda Gabler scolds Mrs. Elvstead about her lover. Hannah Barfoot played Hedda Gabler and Stephanie Trester played Mrs. Elvstead.

Photo by Mike Dye





While courting the Countess of Ceprano, the Duke of Mantoia displays his money and power for the lady to admire. Minutes after singing the countess a love song, the Duke worked his way through the other ladies in the listening crowd. (A.C. Thomas/Chadon)

A father's curse, a daughters bloodshed

R I G O L E T T O

BY RYAN DELEHANT & KARA SWINK

Mary Linn Auditorium staged love, honor and tragedy as told through the story of "Rigoletto".

Encore Performances presented "Opera Verdi Europa Rigoletto" for the university and community in October.

Established in 1996 by Ivan Kyurkchiev, Opera Verdi was based on the great traditions of the art of opera in Bulgaria and presented a unique production combining the best of opera worlds of Bulgaria and all of Europe.

"I enjoyed the performance very much," Maryville resident Joyce Tinsley said. "I enjoyed the general love story and tragedy of it all."

The action took place in the city of Mantua during the 16th century. The Duke of Mantua confides to the courtier Borsa his interest in Gilda, a young girl he wished to kidnap.

Gilda's father, Rigoletto, blamed a curse placed on him for his daughter's disappearance. However, by the time the Duke had learned of Gilda's capture, Rigoletto arrived at the palace after learning of the deception between his daughter and the Duke.

When Rigoletto learned Gilda was alone with the Duke, he pleaded with the courtier to hand over his daughter, but she arrived before courtiers left, confessing her lost honor and love for the Duke. Rigoletto swore revenge to get his daughter back and away from the Duke.

Rigoletto, a cut-throat of honor, hired Sparafucile to take revenge on the Duke. Rigoletto planned to send his daughter to Verona and came back at midnight to throw the Duke's body into the river. However, as soon as her father left, Gilda eavesdropped and heard the cut-throat's sister, Maddalena, convince Sparafucile to kill the first person to enter the tavern instead of the Duke.

Through love, Gilda sacrificed herself, and unrecognized in the darkness, entered the tavern where she knew Sparafucile's dagger awaited. At midnight, Rigoletto rejoiced as he gathered up the sack and got ready to throw it in the river, but over his shoulder, he heard the song of the Duke.

Suspicious, he opened the sack to discover his dying daughter. In the heartbreaking finale, Gilda revealed the reason that made her substitute herself for the Duke's life.

Rigoletto's voice erupted with a scream and cried "Ah, the curse," and hung his head in sorrow.

The audience gave a standing ovation as each performer took their bow. Director Pavel Gerdzhikov and conductors Nayden Todorov and Luciano Di Martino joined the performers for the curtain call.

"I am glad that Northwest was able to bring this performance to our campus," Cameron McCoy said. "It was very well produced, and I enjoyed it very much."



Rushing onto the stage to entertain the Duke's guests, Rigoletto entertains with a song and dance. The court buffoon catered to the will of the duke while secretly resenting him and his court for making fun of his deformities. photo by Theresa Chudini

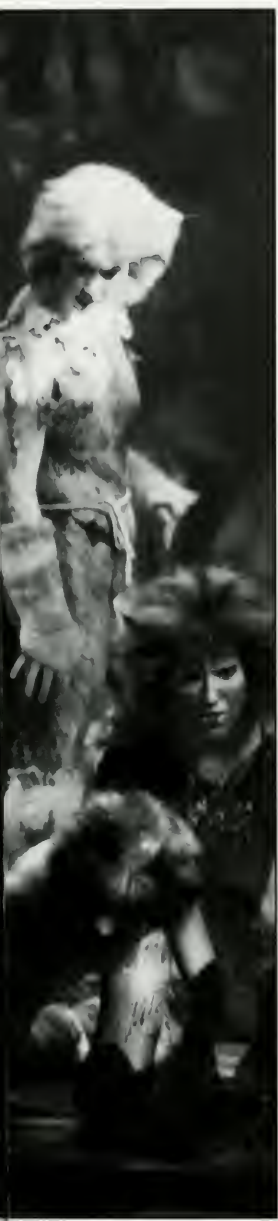
"Cats" dazzled a packed crowd of students, professors and community members with music and dancing at Mary Linn Auditorium. "Cats" was based on T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats." photo by Mike Dye



Northwest's Encore Performance brought the longest-lived Broadway show "Cats" to Marvill Dec. 4. Cats entertained the audience with their skin-tight customs and energetic dances throughout the show. photo by Mike Dye

Jellicle cats joined together for the annual Jellicle ball in Andrew Lloyd-Webber's "Cats." Webber won numerous awards for the show including seven Tony's, three Grammys and a Golden Globe. photo by Mike Dye





C A T S

Felines prance from Broadway to Maryville

BY KARA SWINK

A furry feline invasion captivated Broadway audiences for years with energetic dances, splendid costumes, elaborate staging and amazing special effects.

However, Andrew Lloyd-Webber's "Cats" took its final meow Sept. 10, 2000, with the longest-lived Broadway show of 7,485 performances.

Nevertheless, the Maryville community was invited to the Jellicle Ball when the university presented "Cats" as part of the Encore Performances Dec. 4. Cats pranced their way through the aisles at Mary Linn Auditorium, picking out select individuals to masquerade with.

"I've waited 20 years to see this," Maryville resident Catherine Suarez said. "I'm surprised at how good it was, since it's a small touring production. I didn't expect this type of quality performance, but this has taken my breath away."

T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" paved the way for the musical storyline of Jellicle cats that met once a year for the Jellicle Ball.

Suarez experienced the musical's variety of unusual cats with her daughter Catalina.

"I bought the movie "Cats" and watched it all week, because I was so excited to come," Catalina said with a giggle. "Their costumes make them look like real cats."

Throughout the show, actors wore skin-tight body suits trimmed with fur of calicos and dark browns. With white and black stripes painted on their faces, their facial expressions resembled the look of stalking cats ready to attack their prey.

Cats mystified the audience with ballet dances and notable songs, such as "Memory" and "Jellicle songs for Jellicle Cats." Favorite cats such as Elvis look alike Rum Tum Tugger, Rumpleteazer and the magical Mr. Mistoffelees kept audience members entertained with special effects of magic tricks and artful, poetic dances.

The crowd roared as Mr. Mistoffelees appeared from a whirling cloud of smoke wearing a magician's vest with colorful sequins. After performing dazzling tricks for the Jellicle cats he vanished as quickly as he appeared.

Nevertheless, the claws came out with the evil Macavity. He was a cat famous for escaping dangerous situations and developing crimes. His stickiest situation came when he kidnapped Old Deuteronomy, the elder Jellicle cats respected.

Following the show, audience members either left with various facial expressions ranging from love of the musical to unbearable confusion.

"It was really different. That's an understatement," Tarkio resident John Wilcox said. "I thought there might be a storyline and since there really isn't one, it's kind of hard to understand."

Other audience members were taken aback that the university brought in such a musical masterpiece.

"I'm impressed Northwest brought a production like this here," Suarez said. "This is the type of performance that people in the Midwest don't get to see, because they are always performed on the west or east coasts. This was amazing."



Munchkin's whimsical interactions

WIZARD OF OZ SING-A-LONG

BY MEGAN HEUER

Parents battled bad weather and long distances bringing tiny hobbling heads of lion manes and pigtails to sing songs, blow bubbles and witness classical magic at an Encore movie presentation.

The Yellow Brick Road laid across the stage of Mary Linn Auditorium led Wizard of Oz impersonators through a costume contest parade before the sing-a-long began Feb. 2.

Chicago actor Alan Ball said he became involved with the show after being "Shanghied by a bunch of munchkins." Ball was asked to audition for the master of ceremonies and travel with the sing-a-long tour, which visited more than 100 cities in the United States. He then taught the masses of youngsters what to do with the kazoos, magic wands, bubbles and noise-makers to enjoy the interactive walk down the Yellow Brick Road.

"We're gonna' use our outside voices indoors!" Ball said.

Ball excited the audience as he introduced the show, and when it was all over, he sent them away grinning ear-to-ear humming familiar tunes.

"To me, there is no difference between kids and adults," Ball said. "I just want everyone to have fun."

Bobbi Jo Novak of Grant City drove her daughter Emma through snowy weather so she could watch her favorite Oz character, Dorothy, click her heels together. Emma, only 4 years old, wore a Dorothy outfit, including her third pair of sparkling, ruby-red slippers.

Several other Dorothy look-alikes bounced about with grandparents, parents and siblings, waiting for their favorite parts of the movie.

"I like it when the bubble comes, when all the little children come, and Dorothy wants to know who that little bubble is and stuff," 6-year-old Madison Atwell said.

Sean Sheil brought his children to the performance for simple pleasure and a bit of nostalgia.

"It's been a classic forever, so hopefully, they'll enjoy it as much as I have over the years," Sheil said.



Host Allen Ball introduces Glenda the Good Witch at the Oz Sing-A-Long held at the Mary Linn Auditorium in the Performing Arts Center. Glenda won the look-alike costume contest held before the show. photo by Mike Dye

The "Wizard of Oz" Sing-A-Long hosted by Allen Ball came to town on Feb. 2. The show originally started in Chicago. photo by Mike Dye



Side Splitting Nightlife

COMEDY CENTRAL'S DAVE ATTELL

BY KARA SWINK

Silhouetted in hazy light, a rickety, green-painted bar stool and microphone awaited the foulmouthed, stand-up comedian who sold out Mary Linn Auditorium to a crowd hungry for entertainment.

Decked in his average-Joe ensemble of jeans, work boots, and an untucked mint-green, button-down shirt, Dave Attell strolled onto the stage with a 16-ounce cup of convenient store coffee and a wave matching his comical personality.

Hosted by Spotlight, the 38-year-old New York native, writer and host of Comedy Central's "Insomniac with Dave Attell" paced the stage for 50 minutes with an act steered toward lewd topics of sex, drugs and alcohol.

Attell threw out pieces of advice throughout the act that either had audience members laughing hysterically or shaking their heads in disgust.

"The No. 1 thing about drinking is remember to pull your pants down first, then shit," Attell said. "No one likes a messy backseat of a squad car."

While most only recognized Attell for his late night outings in different cities from the show "Insomniac," students didn't think twice about shelling out \$12 for a ticket that included racy entertainment. Students snaked outside the Administration Building at 8 a.m., Jan. 12 to be the first to buy tickets. Fifteen minutes later, the first five rows were completely sold out as the line inched along.

"I'm glad Northwest finally brought someone here that we've heard of," Joel Merritt said. "Whether it is in stand-up or music. It was about time."

Attell satisfied student needs with risqué jokes circulating between vibrators, anal beads, midgets and "God's gift," masturbation.

Maryville ended Attell's local tour of the region. However, he said college towns were his favorite to visit because "everyone's out to party."

After 17 years in front of a microphone doing stand-up, Attell said he became a comedian by "default."

"I went to NYU for film and TV," he said. "I wanted to be a camera man, but I'm not technologically inclined. So, I cleaned houses and bartended for awhile, until I made a living (as a comedian)," Attell said.

"Insomniac" would continue with the regular insane nightlife, such as delivering piglets and meeting "late night freaks," until Comedy Central stopped airing it, Attell said.

If producers gave the last call for "Insomniac," Attell said he would revert back to his hobby of a stand-up lifestyle.

"Alcohol," he said, "will tell you when the night's over."

Comedian Dave Attell visits campus as part of his road tour across the United States. The New York native spent eight years bartending and cleaning houses before he actually made a living as a comedian. *photo by Mike Dye*



Blind steps to fresh frontier

VOICE OF THE PRAIRIE

BY KARA SWINK

As his lips grazed the microphone, David Quinn's fingers thumped the table as his voice traveled radio channels throughout the Midwest.

Quinn's voice intoxicated airwaves with stories jumping back and forth between 1895 and 1923 about a blind, childhood friend named Frankie, a girl he dreamt about at night and one his audience could literally see.

Fictional character Quinn, played by Tim Forsythe, and the remainder of the cast took center stage at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Auditorium and sent the audience through a whirlwind of comedy and drama which focused on friendship and everlasting love.

"The Voice of the Prairie" written by John Olive, set in the 1920s, followed broadcast storyteller Quinn who became famous for his tales of a childhood spent with Frankie.

Assistant professor of Communication, Theatre, and Languages, Joe Kreizinger directed the cast of 12 freshmen from previous theater backgrounds who participated in the Freshman/Transfer Showcase.

"This production provides a venue for the university theater program's first-year students to receive significant acting and technical experience in a mainstage production within the first few weeks of their university careers," Kreizinger said.

As a longstanding university tradition, the show was put together in approximately three weeks. The experience gave theater majors a chance to familiarize themselves with the department.

However, the need to familiarize themselves with each other came easy for five performers who all attended Oak Park High School in Kansas City.

"It was really easy working with people I already had been working with," Forsythe said. "It was nice already knowing how they would portray their character, and it was great getting to meet new faces and see how they perceived each character and the play."

The play took the audience through the life of Davey Quinn, a boy known to find the best in any situation, who later met a young girl living a cold life with an abusive father. That little girl later became his best friend.

But the radio stories finally ended in 1923, when Quinn told his audience about the night Frankie was taken away from him. Nevertheless, true love prevailed when Frankie heard his story on the radio one afternoon. Immediately following the broadcast, Frankie left in search of Quinn, her one true love.

"The show is really all about opportunity, albeit sometimes missed opportunity, and is really about taking reasonable risk," Kreizinger said. "Which for many of those involved in the Freshman/Transfer show happens naturally when first venturing into the world of university theater."

Davey, played by Michael Padden, clutches Frankie, played by Andrea Wright, to protect her from falling off a ledge during the annual Freshman/Transfer Showcase. "The Voice of the Prairie" ran Sept. 25-28 and featured 12 cast members. photo by Trevor Hayes



Grown-up David Quinn looks back into his past, pulling stories and memories forward to use for his radio show called "The Voice of the Prairie." Quinn, played by Tim Forysht, embodied the human experience of taking risks and finding opportunities in love and life.
photo by Trevor Hertz



School district controversy

by Sarah Swedberg

Education Dilemmas Maryville R-II School District dealt with both an inappropriate student and teacher relationship issue and a tragedy Jan. 16.

Maryville High School English teacher Vicki Auxier, 47, officially resigned Jan. 16 from the school district. The Maryville R-II Board of Education approved a Separation Agreement and Release with her Feb. 18. Superintendent Jay Reese moved forward with the revocation of Auxier's teaching license.

Auxier was charged with statutory rape in the second degree, a class C felony March 1. That day, Auxier turned herself in to local law enforcement in the presence of an attorney.

She was released after posting \$10,000 bond. On March 9 she appeared before the Division II Circuit Court Judge Glen Dietrich.

The charges follow a month-long investigation by Maryville Public Safety into whether Auxier had inappropriate relations with a male student, then 16.

David Baird said a special prosecutor was called to handle the case because Auxier's husband, Rod, worked for the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

Buchanan County Prosecuting Attorney Dwight Scroggins was appointed by the judge to handle the case. He filed a felony complaint March 1 against Auxier.

According to a probable cause statement filed Feb. 27 by Public Safety Sgt. Randy Strong, the student, now 17, admitted Auxier had sexual intercourse with him during summer 2003.

Further investigation also concluded that Auxier had admitted of the relationship to Maryville High School officials.

Under Missouri law, allegations against Auxier fall under statutory rape in the second degree, in which adults at least 21 years of age engage in sexual intercourse with a minor under age 17. The act is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

Court records indicate that the acts occurred in Nodaway County and continued in other counties.

Also that day, a death struck the Maryville School district, causing added stress.

The incident involved Eugene Field Elementary School's Office Manager Nancy McKee. She took her own life after administrators placed her on administrative leave due to a personnel matter.

Eugene Field Elementary Principal David Weichinger had transported her home earlier that day with the intent to stay with her until a family member arrived. As she entered the house she would not allow him to enter. It was after a family member arrived and forced entry to the house that she was found dead.

Because of the sudden death of a staff member and the shock to the other faculty and students, the elementary school was placed on lock-down as a measure to better control the environment.

Entertainment proposition brought to students

by Sarah Swedberg

Activity Fee A fee purposed by Student Senate could bring big name entertainment and quality activities to the university.

If implemented, the fee would cover the costs for two mainstream artist concerts, Student Union activities, outside events, movies and comedy shows.

Students would also have the opportunity to choose what entertainment they wanted to bring to the university.

"The main point we really want to express to students is that every student has the opportunity to come to these events," Student Senate President Emily Dix said. "And that's why we feel that it is fair and reasonable to have all students pay, regardless if you are an online student, a full-time, part-time and a undergraduate or graduate student."

The fee would cost full-time students enrolled in 12 hours or more \$50 per trimester. All part-time students taking 11 hours or less would be charged \$25 per trimester.

Students would be unable to opt out of the fee, and their accounts would be directly charged each fall and spring semester.

"We decided to approach the Student Activities Fee ideas because there have been a lot of complaints on campus from students about how they are disappointed with the type of concerts we have had," Dix said. "They feel like there is nothing to do in Maryville."

Student Senate's Events Planning Committee put together focus groups and surveys to gather students input for each trimester's activities. Afterward, the committee would put together three packages of entertainment for students to vote on.

By a margin of 30 votes, the Student Activities Fee passed on Feb. 18 with 883 students voting.

The close margin came with 443 students voting in favor of the fee and 412 students voting no. Twenty-eight students abstained. Only 15 percent of the student body voted, which Dix said was typical for student voter turnout.

But when Dix took the results of the Activities Fee Referendum vote on Feb. 24, Student Senate decided to re-evaluate the proposal.

With 19 Student Senators voting yes and four voting no, Northwest's student government would go back to the Student Activities Fee Committee to make changes on either the proposal or how to better publicize the fee.

Student Senator Kara Ferguson said she thought Student Senate made a wise decision to re-evaluate the Activity Fee Proposal because students did not have the information they needed.

"Students feel like they weren't informed enough, and they feel like there was a massive amount of confusion," Ferguson said.

Student Senate needed to present the fee to the President's Cabinet for their input and vote. Then, the Board of Regents would vote on the fee.

Ferguson suggested students ask questions and voice their opinions by going into Student Senate's Web site and talk to senators.

"They should find out as much information as they can," Ferguson said. "Their vote is going to make a difference on this proposal."



Classic Cable's converter building caught on fire due to a transformer explosion. Cable was out in the Maryville area for almost a week. *Photo by Mike Dye*

Cable combustion leaves static

by Stephanie Suckow

Classic Cable Fire A blue screen took the place of ESPN while charred remains replaced cable equipment.

Every local customer of Classic Cable lost service due to a fire at the southwest corner of town where the equipment was located Sept. 3.

"I was the first to find the fire rolling out of the generator and the doors blown open," Classic Cable Technician Derek Sunderman said. "I called 911 right away, they responded very quickly and within 10 to 15 minutes the fire was out."

The smoke was gone, but the damage had been done. Customers were without all cable channels until the next morning when channels 2-12 and 37 were available.

"We've been trying to help customers understand that our technicians are working on it," a Classic Cable employee said. "The cable has just gradually been coming back since it went out."

After investigation of the fire, Sunderman said the generator, powered by propane, was the culprit.

Sunderman explained that a possible power outage Oct. 28 triggered the generator. An electrical malfunction within the generator could have started the fire by forcing it to move to other equipment located near it.

Theft strikes Supercenter

by Aaron Bailey

Wal-Mart Investigation of an alleged Wal-Mart theft ring resulted in felony charges against six Maryville residents.

Starting in the summer of 2003, between \$25,000 and \$50,000 in merchandise and cash was stolen from the Maryville Wal-Mart Supercenter. Five of the six accused were employed at the store and allegedly used a process called "underlaying" to steal the merchandise. Underlaying entailed a register clerk that acted as if an item was scanned but it didn't register on the recipient's bill.

Brandi Harrington, 21, a former Wal-Mart employee and Andrea Hansen, 21, a Northwest student, were charged with three counts of felony stealing by deceit.

Haywood Jackson, 19, a Missouri Western State College student and former Wal-Mart employee, was charged with two counts of felony stealing by deceit, while former Wal-Mart employee Charles Dyer, 20 and Tamanda Jenkins were charged with one. However, former employee Aaron Scroggins was charged with one count of misdemeanor stealing by deceit.

In order for the charge to be classified as a felony, the dollar amount had to exceed \$500. Nodaway County Prosecutor David Baird said the maximum penalty for one count of felony stealing by deceit was seven years in prison or up to one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

Director of Public Safety Keith Wood said internal security at Wal-Mart alerted police of the thefts Jan. 30.

According to Wood, the exact number of suspects in the investigation continued to grow as more information was gathered.

"We are interested in anybody involved in this," Wood said. "If someone is afraid their name may come up in the investigation, they should contact us before we contact them. With this many defendants involved, it has the opportunity to multiply itself."

Wood hoped to wrap up the investigation the week after but was unsure if any more arrests would be made. He stressed that investigations like this were almost never finished

because of the outside chance that more information would be revealed.

"Right now, we're just tying up loose ends and covering everything," Wood said. "At this point, we're trying to recover merchandise and analyze certain individuals."

According to the probable cause of statement, filled out by Officer Justin Ballantyne of Maryville Public Safety, one employee was accused of appropriating approximately \$15,000 worth of merchandise from the store.

"Most of what we're seeing is that the people involved knew whoever checked them out and knew about (the illegal activity)," Wood said. "Kind of an 'I'll pay for my deodorant and soap but skip the Walkman' type of thing."



Major tornadoes ripped through the Kansas City area in early May. Repairs for the damages were estimated at \$12 million. Photo by Trevor Haves

Devastations bring implications

by Alan Hargreaves

Kansas City Twisters A series of tornadoes swept across the Kansas City metropolitan area May 4 leaving a trail of destruction.

The storm claimed the life of one Kansas City man, while an estimated 47 people sought treatment for minor injuries.

Professor of meteorology at the University of Oklahoma, Chuck Doswell, told *The Kansas City Star* that the metro area was fortunate because tornadoes could have been much worse than what happened.

"My friends were in the Oak Park Mall at that time, and they had to go down to the basement to wait for a few hours without light," Modern Language Instructor Paco Martinez said.

The National Weather Service Quick Response Team found four cases where tornadoes reached an F4 level on the Fujita scale. At this level, wind speeds ranged from 207 to 260 mph.

With the understanding with the Kansas City area the devastation spread nearly one-quarter of a mile, county and city governments requested more than \$12 million in assistance.

In neighborhoods, residents and city workers labored tirelessly to sort through the remnants of their homes, downed power lines and uprooted trees.

The destruction wasn't limited to homes, as business owners were still battling the daunting task of reconciling with insurance companies three months later.

According to *the Star*, Liberty business owner Jeannie Lash said she was finally ready for something good to happen as she prayed to God not to let her down during troubled times.

■ There were nine distinct tornado touchdowns in the Kansas City area.

■ The Kansas City twisters caused one death and less than 40 injuries.

■ Windspeeds reached up to 200 mph.

■ Tornadoes ranged from 3 feet to 2 miles in width and could last between two and 15 minutes.

■ Eighty-four homes were completely destroyed, and 97 homes suffered major damage.

■ Four tornadoes in the Kansas City area reached F4 intensity on the Fujita scale.

■ F4 level tornadoes had not hit the metro since May 1977 in Clay County.

Gun control triggers controversy

by Brent Chappelow

Concealed weapons Missouri Citizens and lawmakers finally heard the outcome of a Supreme Court hearing about the controversy that surrounded the passing of a Missouri bill which allowed citizens to carry concealed weapons last September.

St. Louis Circuit Judge Stephen Ohmer blocked the bill, which passed by a margin of 115 to 43 in the House and 23 to 10 in the Senate, saying it violated Article I, Section 23 of the Missouri State Constitution cites: "The right of every citizen to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or when lawfully summoned in aid of the civil power, shall not be questioned; but this shall not justify the wearing of concealed weapons."

The definition of the word "justify" presented the basis for legal opposition of the bill. The article continued to report Burton Newman, the attorney representing the opponents of the law, explained to the court the word meant "shall not allow." While the true meaning of the word "justify," used in both the 1875 and 1945 state Constitutions, was up to interpretation. Many opponents also worried about the social implications of the law.

Opponents of the law suggested possibilities of being able to carry hidden knives, blackjacks or other lethal weapons in locations where concealed firearms were not allowed. Opponents also worried about routine traffic stops including more vehicle searches for law enforcement officer safety. In Hazelwood, Mo., Police Chief Carl Wolf instructed his officers "to routinely begin asking motorists if they have guns."

The concealed weapons bill passed through legislation without a statewide vote on the bill. In 1999, Missouri voters rejected a referendum for concealed weapons by a 52 to 48 percent margin. Although the referendum passed, in 104 out of 114 counties, urban areas opposed the measure.

The requirements for the bill included a minimum age of 23, the highest in the nation, a clear criminal record, an eight-hour training course including a live firing exercise and full background checks by the state and FBI. The bill prohibited concealed weapons in police stations, prisons, courthouses, hospitals, airports, schools, colleges, churches, casinos and bars among other enumerated locations.

The Missouri State Supreme Court heard the appeal on Jan. 22, and no decision had been released.

Abuse takes young life

by Jennifer McNair

Brian Edgar Alone in a cocoon of duct tape, throughout the evening, he gnawed at the tape encompassing him. A 9-year-old Kansas City boy was punished for stealing food.

Six more rolls of tape were purchased that night to keep him in a mummy-like state.

Neil and Christy Edgar and family babysitter Chasity Boyd were all charged with first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison for the Dec. 30 death of Brian Edgar.

Brian was one of four children adopted by the Edgars who served as pastors in God's Creation Outreach Ministry, a storefront church in Kansas City, Kan.

The couple's church closed after arrests were made. Witnesses compared the church with a cult and asserted Christy Edgar dominated the congregation, much like a general commands an army. Five other members of God's

Creation were charged with child abuse for disciplining children who had disrespected adults.

Marks found on Brian's body during an autopsy and on the bodies of his brothers and sister, showed evidence of child abuse. Further investigation revealed that extension cords, belts and plastic ties were often used to restrain the Edgar children after they misbehaved.

The Edgar's 16-year-old son testified in court Brian had been wrapped in tape as punishment for stealing food.

Boyd, under direction from Brian's mother, took the boy wrapped in tape, with only his nose visible, to a small storage room and placed him in a sleeping bag for the night. Brian had been dead for hours before his adoptive father brought the already stiffened corpse to KU Medical Center on Dec. 30. Brian died of suffocation during the night.

The three remaining children defended their parents actions, at times citing the Bible as justification for the harsh punishments.

■ In the United States, 125,000 children suffered intentional injuries by their care provider annually.

■ Child abuse was the leading cause of death in children under the age of four.

■ The average response time from the abuse report being filed to investigation was 54 hours.

■ Family preservation services were provided to 14.9 percent of children's families five years prior to their death

Commissioners crack down

by Jodie Moore

FCC Controversies, including the Super Bowl performance of pop stars Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, heated the battle between what was considered "decent" television and scandal.

In a live act that reached nearly 90 million fans, Timberlake exposed Jackson's breast in an act that had not previously been rehearsed or approved by MTV or CBS sponsors.

The Federal Communications Commission reacted quickly, investigating both of the stars and the network. Commissioner Michael Copps said the case could have had a "galvanizing effect" on a movement toward tightening the rules that govern what can and cannot be aired according to the FCC. CBS responded to the commission's investigation and public outcry by airing the Grammy Awards on a 5-minute delay.

Other networks followed suit to protect themselves in the wake of public concern and the watchful eye of the FCC. NBC refused to air an "ER" episode until a scene of an elderly woman's breast was removed, and ABC chose to air the Academy Awards on a 7-second delay.

University of South California's Annenberg School for Communication's professor Martin Kaplan was concerned about the extent the networks were going to, to avoid controversy.

Kaplan told CNN removing the ER scene showed viewers immaturity to distinguish artistic expression from vulgarity for profit.

However, some, including Doug Sudhoff, a network news veteran and assistant professor of Mass Communications believed the initial paroxysms were only temporary.

"The blow-up over the whole Super Bowl half-time and the focusing of the spotlight on the entire entertainment industry will have little effect and will blow over," Sudhoff said. "Politicians (will) scream and shout over the issue until they move onto something else, and at that point, the FCC will move on as well. The only way real change will happen is if the consumer says, 'I'm tired of this.'"

■ J.C. Chasez, former N'SYNC singer, was cancelled from the National Football League's Pro Bowl halftime show because his music portrayed sexually indecent lyrics.

■ Howard Stern was cancelled from six Clear Channel Radio Stations due to racial comments that occurred after an on-air interview.

■ Janet Jackson was ridiculed for her breast baring performance for the NFL Super Bowl halftime performance with Justin Timberlake.

■ Obscene material couldn't be on-air between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. because children could be watching.

■ The FCC regulated indecent programming on broadcast and cable TV content.

■ The Children's Internet Protection Act filtered blocked visual obscenities that were harmful to minors.

■ Obscenity laws were in effect that prohibited people from saying things in an offensive manner.

■ The FCC defined obscene material as describing sexual content "in a patently offensive way" and lacking "serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value." Indecent material was not as offensive but still contained references to sex or excretions.

■ Viacom, CBS, Corporate cousin to MTV, apologized and said the display of Janet Jackson's breast was "unrehearsed, inconsistent with assurances we had about the content of the performance."

Walters walks out on top

by Valerie Berry

Barbara Walters A broadcasting legend decided to step down from her post after 39 years in the industry.

Barbara Walters spent 25 years as a co-host for "20/20." She joined ABC News in 1976, after co-hosting NBC's "Today" show for 13 years. At ABC, she was the first woman to anchor an evening network newscast.

The 74-year-old news anchor said her reasons for leaving "20/20" had nothing to do with the pressure she felt to accommodate to a younger audience nor did they have anything to do with the industry's competition.

Walters said in a statement issued by ABC that she wanted to be more flexible with her life without having to always work on a weekly newsmagazine.

Throughout her career at "20/20," Walters interviewed a wide scope of people. In March of 1999, her interview with Monica Lewinsky drew an audience of more than 45 million viewers.

Walters said she would do six interview specials a year and would continue to produce and occasionally co-host the daytime talk show "The View."

ABC planned to change the newsmagazine's format to make it less dependent on Walter's interviews, after ABC News President David Westin expressed his concern.

Aside from being one of ABC's top reporters, Walters also served as a role model for many in the broadcasting industry, including NBC's Katie Couric and Pat O'Brien of NBC's "Access Hollywood."

Walters said she waited to announce her departure until "20/20" was an unquestionably strong, stable program.



Michael Jackson gives the peace sign as he exits the Santa Barbara County Jail after being booked on child molestation charges Nov. 20. (AP Photo/Nick Ut)

Accusations resurface

by Brent Chappelow

Michael Jackson The self-proclaimed King of Pop faltered when officials charged him for child molestation and giving alcohol to a minor on Dec. 18.

Officials in Santa Barbara County, Calif., brought seven felony counts of child molestation and two felony counts of giving a child an "intoxicating agent" against Michael Jackson.

In response to the charges, Jackson released a letter from his official pressroom at mjnews.us stating the charges were "predicated on a big lie."

According to Santa Barbara County District Attorney Tom Sneddon, the allegations of "substantial sexual conduct" could destroy the possibility for parole and lead to 24 years in prison if found guilty.

Although 12-year-old Gavin Arviso alleged Jackson molested him in 1993, no charges were pressed. The case presented the first instance of actual child molestation

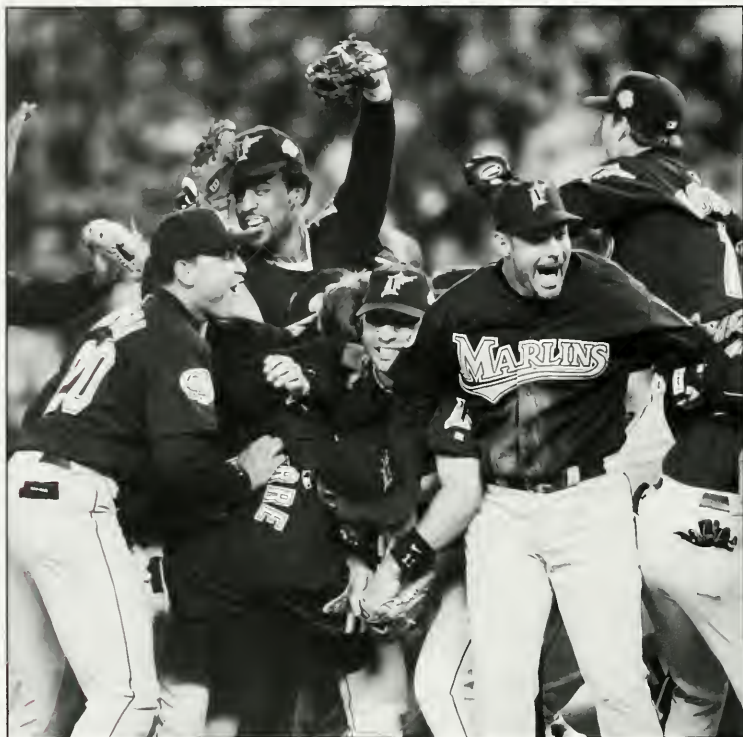
charges brought upon Jackson. "He thought since he was Michael Jackson he could get away with it," said sophomore Miranda Smith.

After pleading innocent to the charges at a Jan. 16 arraignment, Jackson left the courthouse and jumped onto his SUV and danced for the crowd of spectators. Jackson's counsel, Benjamin Brafman, told reporters he'd never seen anything like it.

"I think he's digging himself in a bigger hole," said freshman Jessie Nielsen.

After the party-type atmosphere on the SUV, Jackson invited many fans to his post-arraignment party celebration at his Neverland Ranch. Jackson said he was grateful for his fans support. His preliminary hearing was scheduled for April 2.

In an E! Online news report, Brafman told the press the outpouring of love for Jackson was extraordinary.



Florida Marlins celebrate after defeating the New York Yankees 2-0 to win Game 6 of the World Series Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003 in New York. The Marlins won the series 4 games to 2.
(AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

Marlins catch unexpected victory

by Bill Knust

World Series The Florida Marlins were 13 games below .500. To make matters worse, they hired a 72-year-old Jack McKeon to straighten the ball club out on May 10.

The hire was criticized on TV and radio stations across the country. The baseball world laughed inside but praised the hire McKeon on the outside. They praised it because they figured the Marlins would be an easy team to beat the rest of the season.

Little did they know, five months later, McKeon led the Florida Marlins to the World Series and they toppled the New York Yankees in six games to become world champions.

"At first I questioned his age, but it was a good decision in the end," Bearcat baseball player Adam Williamson said.

The key moment in the season may have been a meeting McKeon held with the ball club in September, Marlins reliever Chad Fox said.

"He told us, flat out, 'Check your egos at the door. Whatever we've got to do to win, we're gonna do,'" Fox told ESPN.

And true to McKeon's word, the Marlins found a way to win in every situation during the 2003 postseason.

Game four was the perfect example. Both teams battled with each other throughout the game. Former Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens toed the rubber for what was supposed to be his last game.

Winded and running low on energy, in the bottom of the seventh, Clemens managed to reach back and fire one more fastball by Marlins' second baseman Luis Castillo. Castillo stared the fastball down but never lifted the bat off his shoulder. Clemens walked off to a standing ovation in Miami that night.

Despite Clemens' strong performance, Yankees pitcher Jeff Weaver decided game four.

With the score tied 3-3 in the 12th inning, Marlins' shortstop Alex Gonzalez hit Weaver's slider barely over the left field fence for a walk-off home run. The blast gave the Marlins a 4-3 victory and tied the World Series 2-2 in the best of seven match-up.

Gonzalez shouted at the ball to leave the park from the moment it left his bat, and he said he was delighted when he reached first base and coach Perry Hill confirmed the home run.

The next two games featured timely hitting and the birth of a pitching star to help the Marlins end the Yankees hopes.

The pitching star was 23-year-old Josh Beckett. With a chance to close out the Yankees in Yankee Stadium, Beckett did not waste an opportunity for a celebration that night in New York.

Williamson said that he thought Beckett played an awesome game, and he was the MVP of the game.

He threw a complete game shut out ESPN's Jayson Stark described as, "a gem." He held a lineup that led the league in home runs and runs scored to just five hits. And in the ninth inning, an inning the Yankees made many miraculous comebacks, he retired the Yankees, 1-2-3.

McKeon did Stark one better in describing Beckett's game. He compared Beckett to some of the greatest pitchers in the game.

"He's just got that mystique that the great pitchers have," McKeon said. "Every time this guy is on the mound, you feel you're going to win. He's like Pedro (Martinez) or (Roger) Clemens. Those guys lift their teams on their backs, and that's what this guy wants to do."

Patriots win in final seconds

by Cole Young

Super Bowl The New England Patriots and the Carolina Panthers squared off in Super Bowl XXXVI, a game many fans and sports experts expected to be one of the most boring games in Super Bowl history.

The Patriots took their slow-paced, efficient offense into battle with the Panthers' strong defense.

In addition to the game itself, football analysts looked at the game as a battle of up-and-coming quarterbacks.

New England's Tom Brady, with one Super Bowl to his credit, faced off against Panther's quarterback Jake Delhomme, who looked to make his name in the Nation Football League.

Many of the analysts were correct in their prediction of a boring game through the first three quarters. Going into the fourth quarter, the Patriots led only 14-10.

In the fourth quarter, both teams and quarterbacks came alive. Delhomme led the Panthers to three fourth-quarter touchdowns, finishing the game 16-33 with 323 passing yards.

According to a post-game press conference with CNN, panther's head coach John Fox said that Delhomme motivated his team by scoring touchdowns, although the patriots received the ball last.

His performance was overshadowed by Brady who finished the game with a Super Bowl record of 32 completions. In addition, he passed for 354 yards.

Brady's main accomplishment came when he led his squad to the game-winning drive with 1:08 remaining with the game knotted at 29.

Patriots' kicker Adam Vinatieri, who missed two field goals earlier in the game, made a 31-yard field goal to win Super Bowl XXXVI.

Since Vinatieri won the game with the winning field goal, he said he felt obligated to hoist the trophy.

Brady won the quarterback battle, winning the game's Most Valuable Player by the Associated Press.

In a post-game conference, Brady said to win the Super Bowl was incredible.

Armstrong pedals to 5th victory in Paris

by Jessica Hartley

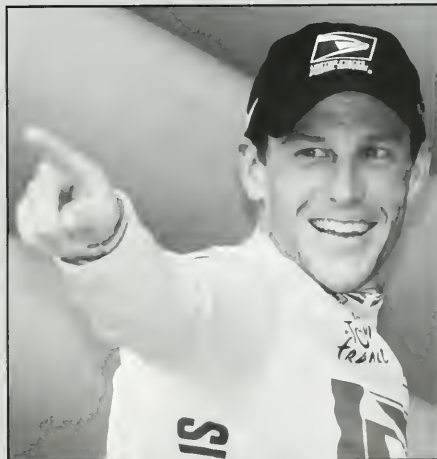
Tour de France Wind wisped through their hair, rain stung their faces and sun burned their necks, but cyclists rode through obstacles as they looked on to be the first to finish the Tour de France.

Bikers looped through various French locations July 5-27, climbed mountains, sprinted distances and dodged fans across various terrain. Lance Armstrong, however, pulled through with a victory, becoming the fifth man to win the Tour five times.

The 90th edition of the Tour began in fair weather through the heart of Paris. The first stage ended in a pile-up of cyclists from an unplanned S-curve on a narrow street, which knocked out two riders and injured some of the top competitors.

Armstrong struggled at the halfway point of the race, presenting a challenge for the Tour. Armstrong's biggest rival, Germany's Jan Ulrich, won stage 12. By stage 15, Armstrong finally gained the lead but after his handlebar snagged a fan's bag just before the finish line.

Armstrong led stage 19 and Ulrich shadowed him by a minute. But Armstrong got a break when rainy weather caused Ulrich to crash, allowing Armstrong to pedal into the lead. Armstrong took the final stage of the Tour with a 61-second lead, setting the overall race speed record.



Lance Armstrong leaves the podium after the 19th stage of the Tour de France cycling race, a 30.4-mile individual time trial between Pornic and Nantes, western France, Saturday, July 26, 2003. Britain's David Millar won the stage. Armstrong finished third, securing his overall lead. (AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

Cars try to navigate their way through New York City during a blackout that hit steamy U.S. and Canadian cities Aug. 14, stranding people in subways, closing nine nuclear power plants from New York to Michigan and choking streets with workers driven from stifling offices. (AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)



'Big Apple' blackout strands thousands

by Melissa Galitz

New York Blackout Bright lights characterized the sensory overload of Times Square. When the city turned black, New Yorkers banded together to overcome obstacles.

During Senior Kenton McDonald's summer internship at HBO Sports in New York City, the entire Northeast region of the country lost power at approximately 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time Aug. 14. The blackout affected more than 50 million people across the East Coast, Canada and the Midwest. New Yorkers dealt without power for nearly 30 hours.

"When Times Square was completely dark, after the sun went down, it was incredible," McDonald said. "The only light that you could see was from the headlights of cars. People were everywhere."

According to McDonald, it was difficult to stay updated on the blackout with lines of communication down. The thousands of people gathered in Times Square began to eavesdrop on live broadcasts to learn about the extent of the blackout and why it happened.

"People in the office thought maybe we were under some sort of attack," McDonald said. "Nobody had any idea what was going on because no information was being given out."

With the lack of electricity halting public transportation, stranded commuters filled sidewalks and began to spill into the streets. According

to McDonald, some citizens took it upon themselves to direct traffic and those with cars offered complete strangers rides home, he said.

"People were picking up people that they didn't know and taking them by car out to their homes in New Jersey, Connecticut or Long Island," McDonald said.

As the sun went down, people found ways to pass time and make themselves comfortable. Local pubs stayed open to sell beer that otherwise would have gone bad.

"It was kind of funny because people were all in good spirits," McDonald said. "They were at the bar having a good time. The windows were open, they had candles going and a lot of the people were poured out into the streets drinking beer."

Spirits were high despite temperatures reaching the upper 90s and limited food sources. With no electricity, hot dog and pretzel vendors dominated the food market and sold-out by nightfall. McDonald said he expected people to be upset and resort to violence, but everyone used it as an excuse to relax.

"I actually heard people say, compared to 9-11, this isn't any big deal we can get through this," McDonald said. "They were thinking, 'we have gone through worse things before, a blackout is not going to effect us.'"

Exploration of the unknown

by Jamie Schiro

Mars Rover The U.S. space program reached their goal of landing on Mars in January, and although humans had not yet set foot on the red planet, NASA's Exploration Rovers collected samples.

The twin robot spacecrafts were what scientist referred to as geologists. The rounded machines had bodies and arms that collected samples of the planet's surface. They were also equipped with scientific instruments such as cameras, magnets and a microscopic imager. The equipment sent signals back to Earth for NASA officials to examine.

NASA sent the equipment to Mars to explore the area's soils and discover whether the region could or had ever sustained life. NASA's Web Site stated there were two spots located on Mars, Gusev Crater a possible former lake and Meridiani Planum, where mineral deposits were found, which led to the prediction there may have been water.

"Forty percent of missions fail. Take the European spacecraft Beagle for instance. It was sent to Mars and never heard of again," Assistant Professor of chemistry and physics David Richardson said.

Richardson was interested in the latest news from Mars and read daily information provided on the Internet. NASA believed this was a huge accomplishment and would provide useful information for the future.

"Things are definitely headed that way. As President George W. Bush proposed, a moon-base could help achieve many similar goals of NASA," Richardson said.

The United States planned to build a moon-base for studies in outer space and to discover if life could ever sustain. Bush hoped to have the plan up and running no later than 2020.

Captured serial killer confesses

by Sarah Swedberg

Green River Killer After 20 years of searching for the Green River Killer, police finally captured their man.

Green River Killer, Gary Ridgway, pled guilty on Nov. 6 to murdering 48 women in the Pacific Northwest. Most of his victims' bodies were found in and around Seattle.

A Seattle judge sentenced Ridgway to life in prison at Washington State Penitentiary without parole.

Judge Richard Jones said he hoped Ridgway would remember the faces of his victims in his dreams and private thoughts from his grisly deeds. Jones added that if Ridgway had a drop of emotion he'd be haunted for the balance of his life.

The 54-year-old industrial painter from Auburn, Wash. confessed to more murders than any other serial killer in U.S. history. His arrest in 2001 ended the country's longest-running serial murder investigation.

Ridgway told families, gathered in court in December, he tried to keep from killing any ladies. Ridgway apologized for the unfound ladies and hoped they would rest in peace.

King County sheriff's officers and prosecutors got Ridgway to confess to the crime by bargaining with him. They told him, if he told the

truth about all the killings and agreed to help police locate the bodies of his victims, he could avoid the death penalty.

Once the deal was signed, detectives questioned Ridgway for six months as he lived in their headquarters. Ridgway lived in a small office in the center of the building and slept on a bare mattress.

He spent each day under heavy guard—surrounded by the men and women who had once tried to catch him in the 1980s.

Everyday, Ridgway went to a room, took a seat before a camera and began answering questions. On tape, Ridgway confessed to killing 48 women, who were either prostitutes or runaways. Ridgway picked young women who worked on the streets. He took them in his car and disappeared into the night to kill them.

He said he chose prostitutes because they were easy to pick up and might never have been reported missing.

To jog his memory, detectives took Ridgway back to the sites where he had dumped the bodies.

Ridgway placed his first six victims near the banks of the Green River south of Seattle. The remains of dozens of women turned up near ravines, rivers, airports and freeways since the 1980s.

Wildfires ravage California

by Jamie Schiro

California Fires During the month of October, wildfires killed at least 14 people and sent thousands to refuge, while charring parts of the Southern California area.

Fires blazed in Ventura County's Simi Valley, as far south as San Diego County. Engulfing more than 85,000 acres, California's hot and dry temperatures, along with high winds, spread the blaze. In some places, flames were said to be more than 100 feet tall.

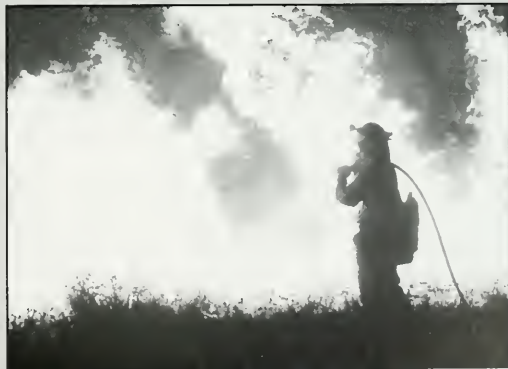
The fires destroyed more than 1,000 homes, left tens of thousands without electricity and took the lives of California residents. Schools closed, pro-sports games changed locations and essentially, only the fundamental services remained open. California saw wildfires in the past but none that covered such an amount of land.

Firefighters and many Californians were left to find only charred rubble in late November after the fires calmed.

Director of Emergency Services for the Red Cross Steve Sisk said the short notice left a lot of people with nowhere to go.

According to CNN, San Diego's fire chief said at least 25,000 of the 85,000 acres burned were within city limits.

Once the inferno calmed, U.S. President George W. Bush declared Los Angeles, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties major disaster areas. Correspondents of CNN Miguel Marquez and Jeff Flock believed declaring it a national disaster area, governments, businesses and people affected by the fires would begin to see some of the federal dollars heading their way.



U.S. Forest Service firefighter Brian Theler from the Cleveland National Forest battles the Cedar Fire late Tuesday, Oct. 28 in Descanso, Calif. The Cedar Fire was one of ten fires burning throughout Southern California. (AP Photo/Matt York)

Hopefulls battle for Democratic ticket

by Jessica Tasler

Democratic Nomination Following months of exhausting sprints on the campaign trail, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry surprised opponents by emerging as the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination.

As major campaign efforts got under way, the majority of pre-caucus, pre-primary polls showed former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean as the favorite candidate to take on President George W. Bush in 2004. But Kerry's camp persisted, campaigning in Iowa, the location of the first caucus. Iowans hit the polls on Jan. 19. When the results were revealed, it was Kerry, not Dean, who won, taking 38 percent of the votes.

From there, Kerry's efforts gained momentum. The next week, New Hampshire's primary took place, and again, Kerry emerged as the winner. Week three primaries were held in South Carolina, Oklahoma, North Dakota, New Mexico, Missouri, Delaware and Arizona with Kerry winning all but Oklahoma and South Carolina.

As Kerry's campaign picked up, other contenders dropped out based on primary results. Rep. Dick Gephardt, Sen. Joe Lieberman, retired Gen. Wesley Clark and eventually Dean all ended their campaigns, leaving only Kerry and Sen. John Edwards as major contenders for the 2,162 delegate votes needed to secure the nomination. Despite the dropouts, some candidates chose to remain in the race as independents. Rep. Dennis Kucinich and the Rev. Al Sharpton continued their campaigns despite extremely low poll showings and Independent Ralph Nader announced his candidacy in late February.



Independent candidates distracted votes from major party runners and some students thought it really didn't cause major upsets in the election process.

"I think everyone should have a chance to run," Jennifer Crockrey said. "That's how a democracy works. If he wants to run, let him."

Kerry's rise as the front-runner may have been based on his stance as the "working man's leader" and his promises to provide health coverage to 97 percent of Americans, lower education costs and retain tax cuts. Additionally, while other candidates took shots at each other, Kerry saved his for Bush, leaving him a message in his Iowa victory speech.

Kerry told Bush to watch out and to not let the door him on the way out, according to CNN.

Democratic presidential hopefuls from left to right, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut; former govern Howard Dean, of Vermont; former Sen. Carol Mosley Braun of Illinois; Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina; retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark of Arkansas; Sen. Jolene Perry of Massachusetts; the Rev. Al Sharpton of New York; and Rep. Dennis Kucinich, of Ohio pose together prior to the 'Rock the Vote' debate Nov. 4 at Boston's Faneuil Hall. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

Taped kidnapping prompts action

by Janea Philip

Carlie Brucia The importance of child safety was brought to America's attention after witnessing an 11-year-old, Florida girl being led to her death.

Carlie Brucia took a short-cut home behind a closed Sarasota, Fla. carwash Feb. 1. As the young girl walked along the pavement, a surveillance camera captured her being pulled away by a middle-aged, white man.

Sarasota police officials issued an AMBER alert for Brucia immediately after she was reported missing. After public viewing of surveillance tapes, tips from various community members led to the arrest of 37-year-old, Joseph Smith Feb. 3.

Three days after the arrest of Smith, officials found Brucia's body in the woods, a few miles away from the carwash, behind the Central Church of Christ.

Sheriff Captain Jeff Bell said Smith would pay the ultimate price for taking such a young life according to Kron 4.

The kidnapping was the first child abduction to be caught on tape in U.S. history.

According to *The Kansas City Star*, two memorial services were conducted for community members to mourn Brucia's death.

The first memorial service took place at the Central Church of Christ, stemming a crowd of more than 1,000 who displayed their grievances. The second memorial occurred at the Church of the Palms with a crowd of more than 1,500.

The Kansas City Star reported the Central Church of Christ vowed to turn the woods behind the church into a memorial site for Brucia.

The distressing experience caused even more controversy when it was discovered that Smith had been arrested 13 times before the incident occurred and Julie Chen of CNN News said Carlie Brucia's family demanded to know why a drug addict with previous kidnapping accusations was not behind bars before.

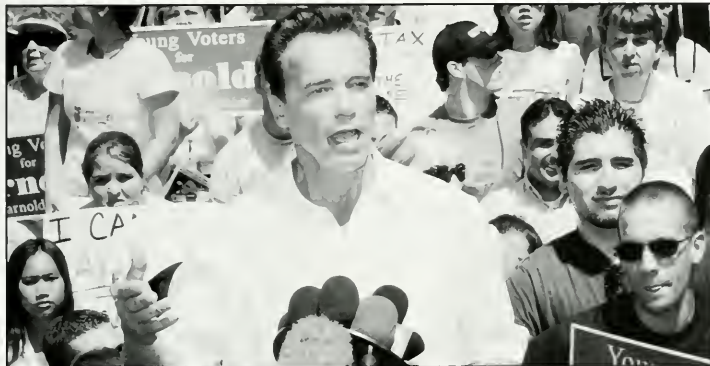
The growing number of child kidnappings and homicides prompted many investigations and changes in safety precautions, such as the AMBER Alert system. Brucia's abduction sparked an era of change throughout the nation compelling people to start new programs promoting child safety.

After they viewed the final images of Carlie Brucia, *Kansas City Star* reporter Aimee Juarez wrote the nation made a move to educate children on defense.

Actor governs California

Schwarzenegger wins election recall

by Samuel Muchiri and Kara Swink



Amid admirers, Arnold Schwarzenegger talks with reporters after his speech as he takes his campaign for governor of California to the campus of California State University, Long Beach, Sept. 3. (AP Photo/Ric Francis)

Arnold Schwarzenegger After a trail of successes in the movie industry, Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected on a Republican ticket as California's 38th governor, after a recall on Gray Davis.

Schwarzenegger's first act as governor was signing an executive order that reversed an unpopular increase in the vehicle license fee.

According to CNN, Arnold said in his inaugural speech he was not replacing a man or political party but that he wanted to change California's entire political outlook.

After inaugurated, Schwarzenegger promised to restore confidence in the government. He faced a shortfall expected to be at least \$ 11.5 billion in the coming year. He promised to eliminate the deficit without raising taxes or cutting education spending as the state of California had the largest deficit, nationwide. Schwarzenegger also promised to convene a special session of the state legislature to address the fiscal crisis and overhaul the state's compensation system.

For the people of California, Schwarzenegger promised not to let them down.

Homosexuals battle for matrimony rights

by Nikki Noble

Gay Marriage A controversial ruling by the Massachusetts Supreme Court sparked strong reactions from heterosexual and homosexual couples.

The Court ruled the state legislature had six months to re-write state marriage laws allowing same-sex couples to marry in November. This ruling was made in response to a lawsuit by seven, same-sex couples from Massachusetts who were denied marriage licenses by various town halls. The ruling stated attorneys "failed to identify any constitutionally adequate reason" to deny gay and lesbian couples the right to marry.

Opposed reactions to the issue were swift and strong from Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and U.S. President George W. Bush. Romney said the state legislature would comply with the court order but said he would begin working toward a constitutional amendment "that will be consistent with what I think the feelings are of the commonwealth."

Bush said marriage was sacred and should only be between a man and woman, and said he would defend the sanctity of marriage, according to an article published on CNN.

When the case was still pending, Scott McClellan, a White House spokesman, said that Bush wished to "codify his belief that marriage should be limited to unions between a man and a woman," but had not endorsed a constitutional amendment.

Although the ruling dealt only with marriage, lawmakers did not say they would fight other forms of recognition for same-sex couples.

In a written statement reported by CNN, Romney said, "We must provide basic civil rights and appropriate benefits to non-traditional couples."

The seven couples who filed the lawsuit were thrilled when they heard the results.

"Without a doubt this is the happiest day in our lives," said Gloria Baily, one of the fourteen people who filed the lawsuit said it was one of the best days of her life and that the most important thing was to know she and her partner would be at each other's side, according to CNN.

Bush and Romney's opinions tallied with the majority according to Gallup polls conducted from 1996 to 2004. The polls concluded between 55 and 68 percent of Americans were opposed to "legalizing same-sex marriage" and 47 to 50 percent of Americans were in favor of a constitutional amendment banning these marriages.

Traditionally, states determined what rights homosexual couples received. Laws prohibiting consensual sodomy existed in 13 states, and four states prohibited sexual acts of any kind between same-sex partners. Vermont law allowed same-sex civil unions, and Alaska, California and Washington D.C. had official registries for same-sex couples. Thirty-six states, including Missouri, had laws banning same-sex marriages.

"I think different states are likely to come to different conclusions, and that's appropriate," said Vice President Dick Cheney in an October 2000 debate, according to CNN. "I don't think there should necessarily be a federal policy in this area."

Deadly disease unmasked

by Samuel Muchiri and Kara Swink

SARS Face masks covered mouths protecting against the deadly respiratory disease that hit 32 countries and killed more than 800 people.

The first case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome was reported on Feb. 26, 2003 in Hanoi, Vietnam. A man was admitted with a high fever, dry cough, muscle soreness and mild sore throat.

The disease spread throughout hospitals affecting hospital workers who became ill with symptoms similar to SARS.

SARS killed approximately 813 people and sickened 8,437 others before it was put under control. The disease proved particularly dangerous in Asian countries such as China, Singapore and Thailand and to a lesser extent to western countries such as Canada.

Foreign travelers going in and out of the countries were required to fill out medical forms, and if symptoms occurred, travelers were put under isolation.

Health officials in the U.S. reported eight confirmed cases, 19 probable cases and 134 suspected cases of SARS according to World Health Organization.

International air travel shrank 2.4 percent in 2003 after a narrow gain a year earlier due to SARS alert, according to the International Air Transport Association.

According to Wall Street Journal, China claimed to have a vaccine for the SARS virus. It included injecting a dead SARS virus that raised immunity. China gave permission for doctors to start injecting an experimental SARS virus vaccine into 30 volunteers Jan. 19.

Bush declares first strikes justifiable

by Kara Swink

Preemptive Strikes President George W. Bush declared in a national security strategy that the military would adopt a strike-first policy against terrorist threats if needed.

"The National Security Strategy of the United States of America," introduced a more aggressive approach to combating weapons of mass destruction. The policy aimed to prevent the transfer of weapon's components or destroy them before assembled.

The United States could no longer solely rely on a "reactive posture" and that the nation had to be ready to strike first said Bush, according to an *USA Today* article.

Richard Frucht, department chair of history, humanities, philosophy and political science believed first strikes should only be used when needed.

"When you tell the rest of the world to get lost, that doesn't mean they will," Frucht said. "You always have to approach this monstrosity with skepticism and caution."

The report, Bush's first since he became president, summarized his strategy as it evolved after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and underpinned his campaign against Saddam Hussein.

However, U.N. Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan told world leaders the U.S. doctrine of preemptive strikes posed as a fundamental challenge to world peace and the United Nations stability.

Annan believed the U.S. first strike precedent opened doors of devastation surrounding India and Pakistan, Japan and North Korea, and countless other nations.

In the past, U.S. officials saw advantages and kept the world guessing about how the United States would respond to evidence that a country or terrorist group was hiding WMD.

Since 1945, when the world body was founded, states usually dealt with threats through a system based on collective security and the U.N. Charter, which prescribed all states, if attacked, retained the right of self-defense.

However, according to Annan, countries understood when states used force to deal with broader threats to maintain peace and security, they needed the unique legitimacy provided by the United Nations.

"We presume we know the right answers and we think because of that, everyone will knowledge that," Frucht said. "But it has to be both in order for this to work. We've jumped into a pool of quick sand that looked fun to swim in, but now we're going down fast."

Late response takes lives

by Jennifer McNair

Moscow Fire Students at Moscow's Patrice Lumumba Peoples Friendship University awoke Nov. 24 to a smoke-filled hall and the realization that their lives depended on finding a way out of the burning dormitory building.

The fire, which claimed the lives of 36 foreign students and injured 170 others, was considered one of the worst blazes Moscow had seen in more than 26 years. Students who escaped the fire witnessed fellow residents screaming and jumping from windows of the burning five-story building.

"People still inside the building were shouting, 'Help us, save us!' The entire building was ablaze, and people were so desperate, they were jumping out the windows," Idibek Sharapov, a student at the university, said according to an article in the *Los Angeles Times*.

The majority of the building's 272 residents were from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. The dorm served as a quarantine for students that recently arrived in Russia from developing countries. Students were held for a month in the building under quarantine until cleared by a medical examination.

Many of the dorm's inhabitants believed more lives could have been spared if rescue efforts had arrived sooner. It took the fire department more than 30 minutes to respond. Once firetrucks arrived, low water pressure impaired the fire fighting efforts.

Red meat recall

by Sarah Dittmann

Mad Cow Disease

The average person ate 65 pounds of beef a year and America was shaken to learn of its first case of mad cow disease at the close of 2003.

Imported from Canada to Washington state, an infected cow's byproducts were distributed to eight other states.

Despite assurances from Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman that American beef was still safe, more than 30 countries banned U.S. beef imports, and cattle prices dropped more than 20 percent within a month of the case.

However, a report conducted by Massachusetts-based firm Global Insight Inc. reported 90 percent of Americans were confident U.S. beef was safe. By the end of January, cattle prices rose again.

According to *The Week*, mad cow disease was linked to Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, which ate holes in the brain and lead to derangement and death. Mad cow disease spread when people or other cows ate the brain matter and spinal cord matter of infected animals.



Workers check through products made from U.S. imported beef in front of trash burner on January 16, 2004 in Incheon, South Korea. A South Korean food company that used U.S. beef has incinerated 600 ton of products. South Korea and Japan suspended U.S. beef imports after the first outbreak of mad cow disease in the United States. photo by Chang Sung-Jung/Getty Images

While U.S. Department of Agriculture officials promised beef was safe for consumption, they warned there was a slightly higher risk for those who consumed ground beef, hot dogs, taco meat or lunch meats on a regular basis.

Higher risk stemmed from the meats, which were made from several sources, sometimes made by advanced meat recovery systems. These machines strip flesh from the spines and bones of the cow.

Some critics blamed the beef industry's low testing policy—only .001 percent of cattle were tested—for the occurrence.

In mid-February, the United States Food and Drug Administration recommended the government increase testing in cows, also known to increase knowledge about whether cosmetics, dietary supplements, drugs and the blood supply were risk factors in human disease contraction.

No one became infected as a result of the Washington cow.

■ Mad cow disease was another name for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).

■ BSE transmissible, degenerative, fatal disease affecting the central nervous system

■ Prions were never found in dairy products.

■ More people died from pathogenic bacteria than fell victim to the human form of Mad Cow in the UK: there had been zero cases in the U.S.

Epidemic attacks worldwide

by Jessica Tasler

Bird Flu With SARS predominantly contained, Asians braced themselves for another dangerous outbreak: Bird flu.

Avian influenza, or bird flu, ripped through Asian poultry farms resulting in more than 20 human deaths and the culling of millions of ducks and chickens.

A strain of the avian influenza virus known as H5N1 caused the outbreak. The strain was highly contagious and rapidly fatal among poultry and, unlike other strains, was able to be passed to humans who had direct contact with infected chickens and their feces.

The epidemic was first identified in December in South Korea. In a matter of months, it spread to Thailand, Cambodia, Japan, China, Indonesia, Laos and Vietnam killing humans and poultry.

As more cases emerged, Asian governments ordered the slaughter of millions of poultry to try and contain the virus. Several countries,

including India and the European Union, banned poultry imports from countries with confirmed cases.

On Jan. 11, the first human victim of the virus was confirmed in Vietnam. In the months following, more than 20 Asians died from bird flu.

Although no vaccine existed, scientists and authorities worked hard to eradicate the virus.

According to MSNBC, The Food and Agriculture Organization said there were three key strategies to prevent the outbreak from reoccurring: the rapid slaughter of infected flocks, modernization of poultry farming and early detection. If those methods were not followed, disastrous results would occur according to World Health Organization's Regional Director Shigeru Omi.

"There's always potential for this kind of outbreak to result in serious global pandemic, which involves not hundreds, but could kill millions of people globally," Omi said.



Iraqis beat a picture of Saddam Hussein with their shoes while others celebrate the capture of Saddam Hussein in downtown Baghdad Sunday Dec. 14. (AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)

Nations collide

by Jessica Tasler

Following months of searches by U.N. weapons inspectors and investigations by U.S. intelligence, President George W. Bush announced his solution to disarming Iraq: The start of **"Operation Iraqi Freedom."**

The announcement came in a televised speech March 19, 2003, following extensive speculation that Iraq was violating U.N. Resolution 1441 by withholding weapons of mass destruction.

Build-up

U.N. weapons inspectors combed Iraq for weapons of mass destruction since November 2002, but Iraq did not fully cooperate, leaving too many questions unanswered for the Bush Administration. Based on that and U.S. intelligence reports, Bush, with the support of British Prime Minister

Tony Blair and Spain's President of Government Jose Maria Aznar, issued Iraqi President Saddam Hussein an ultimatum. Hussein had 48 hours, beginning March 17 to leave Iraq.

The ultimatum expired March 19. Bush met with members of the National Security Council and ordered an attack on Iraq at 8:12 p.m. U.S. Central Standard Time.

Combat

The war began by air and by sea, led by two F-117s carrying MK-84s, and 40 Tomahawk Cruise Missiles fired from U.S. troops in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf.

Ground war began March 20 near the southern border of Iraq. For the next week, some troops, led by U.S. Army's 3 Infantry Division, made their way to Iraq's capitol, Baghdad. Others battled Hussein's regime in the Iraqi cities of Najaf and Kut.

As the weeks passed, Iraqi military divisions were weakened in Karbala and at Saddam International Airport. On April 5, the 3 Infantry Division and US Marine 1 Expeditionary Force moved into Baghdad, gaining control of the main routes into the city. By April 9, U.S. military forces had taken command of Baghdad. Thousands of Iraqis celebrated their liberation by spilling into the city



A U.S. Army helicopter flies near the area after a U.S. Chinook helicopter believed to be carrying dozens of soldiers was struck by a missile and crashed west of Baghdad Nov. 2, killing 13 soldiers and wounding more than 20 others, the U.S. command and witnesses reported. (AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

streets and pulling down a tall statue of Hussein.

According to MSNBC, despite the celebrations, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld warned more fighting and casualties were to come.

Combat continued as U.S. forces took the city of Tikrit, the last Iraqi town thought to be under the influence of Hussein's regime. By April 15, reconstruction and security efforts began with the first deliveries of U.N. food aid arriving

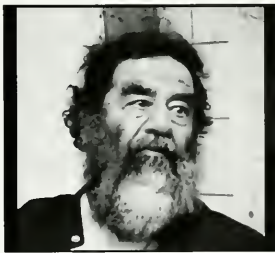
April 20. Lt. Gen. Jay Garner, USA, Ret., Bush's chosen administrator in rebuilding Iraq, arrived in Baghdad as plans for a Democratic government in Iraq emerged.

While aboard aircraft carrier U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, Bush announced the end of major combat operations in Iraq May 1.

Despite the declaration, violence, destruction and death continued to plague U.S. soldiers in Iraq. As of Feb. 29, the number of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq was 500, most of those during post-combat reconstruction.

Key Captures

Captured former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein speaks in Baghdad Dec. 14 in this image from television. Top U.S. administrator in Iraq L. Paul Bremer confirmed the capture of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein in a dirt hole under a farmhouse near his hometown of Tikrit, eight months after the fall of Baghdad. (AP Photo/US Military via APTN)



Based on a tip from an Iraqi informant, July 22 U.S. soldiers raided the home of one of Hussein's cousins and found the former leader's sons Uday and Qusay. After a fierce resistance,

both sons, who were powerful military forces in Iraq, were killed.

A statement from the White House said, the Hussein brothers were responsible for countless atrocities committed against the Iraqi people and they could no longer cast a shadow of hate on Iraq.

Nine months after "Operation Iraqi Freedom" began, the United States' most sought-after man was captured in an underground hole.

Hussein was discovered 9 miles from his hometown of Tikrit Dec. 14. The hole containing the former dictator was 6 to 8 feet deep, equipped with basic ventilation and covered with dirt.

Soldiers also found a pistol and \$750,000 in U.S. \$100 bills with Hussein.

Interrogations of captured family members and former bodyguards led troops to Hussein's hiding spot. No one received the \$25 million reward since the capture was based on hostile questioning and not one tip.

Less than 24 hours after the capture, Hussein was removed from Iraq. After being placed in coalition custody interrogations of the former dictator began.

According to CNN, Bush said Saddam would face the justice he denied to millions.

Questions

Celebration of Hussein's capture was overshadowed by questions of failed intelligence.

In February, former Chief Weapons Inspector David Kay concluded Iraq did not possess WMD. Despite months of searching based on U.S. intelligence reports, Kay and other U.S. inspectors found no forbidden weapons in Iraq. According to CNN, Kay said the Bush administration's intelligence on Iraq was almost all wrong and questioned the preemptive strike policy. Kay also said without good, accurate intelligence that was credible, a policy of preemption could not be held.

Based on Kay's disclosure, Bush launched a full-blown investigation into the intelligence failure, examining what the United States knew before the war began, and what was determined since the invasion.



An Iraqi boy passes U.S. Army humvees next to the burned out building of Iraq Information ministry in Baghdad Dec. 10. Reportedly, Iraqi police and U.S. troops searched the building looking for looters. (AP Photo/Karem Kadam)

Rescued soldier returns home

by Alan Hargreaves

On March 23, 11 of 12 soldiers from the U.S. Army's 507th Maintenance Company lost their lives near the southern Iraqi town of Nasiriyah as they came under enemy attack.

In route to Baghdad, the surprise ambush ensued when the soldiers became separated from the convoy they were traveling in. The soldiers had made a wrong turn, which gave the Iraqi troops an opportunity to attack.

The only soldier to survive the attack would also become the first American POW of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Her name, Private first class Jessica Lynch and her story of attack, captivity and rescue dominated the media for months.

Although there were some questions of excessive force by our military in the rescue of Pfc. Jessica Lynch, certain elements of her story remain true. Lynch was held for nine days in an Iraqi hospital while staffers tended to numerous injuries sustained in the wreck that led to her capture.

Lynch later played down the media's attempt to coin her as a hero. She denied leaving off swarms of Iraqis.

In an ABC interview, Lynch said, "My weapon jammed; I did not shoot a single round."

Junior Scott Griffin, a Lance Cpl. in the United States Marine Corps has been certified as a "sharp shooter" on the M-16 assault rifle, the same weapon Lynch used.

"In desert environment you have to clean your gun every chance you get," Griffin said. "Otherwise it'll stick, then your screwed."



Pfc. Jessica Lynch says she is "disturbed" by military reports that falsely said she went down shooting in an Iraqi ambush and dramatized her rescue by U.S. troops. Lynch said in an interview Nov. 11, in New York. "That wasn't me. I wasn't about to take credit for something I didn't do," she told the Associated Press. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

According to ABC News, when U.S. special forces came to rescue Lynch, she heard loud gun shots and yelling. She heard voices speaking in English, inquiring to her whereabouts. When the special forces found her in a hospital room, they said "We're American soldiers. We're here to take you home." Then, one soldier ripped the American flag patch off of his uniform and gave it to her to hold.

According to ABC News, after Lynch was successfully transported back to the United States, she "spent nearly four months in a military hospital in Washington, D.C." for rehabilitation. The controversy surrounding her rescue and the Pentagon's alleged efforts to propagate the event never outweighed the importance of Lynch's commitment to her country.

■ As of Feb. 27, there were 549 American casualties due to Operation of Iraqi Freedom.

■ Eleven soldiers died while Lynch was taken prisoner.

■ Family spokesperson Randy Coleman said Lynch suffered three breaks in her left leg, multiple breaks in her right foot, a fractured disk in her back, a broken right arm and lacerations on her head.

■ The number of wounded Americans totaled 3,039.

"Operation Iraqi Freedom" timeline

2 Jessica Lynch rescued by United States Special Forces after being held as a POW.

3 Michael Kelly became the first journalist to be killed.

9 Baghdad fell to U.S.

22 Saddam Hussein's sons, Uday and Qusay, were killed in a United States raid.

March

April

May

July

December

17 President George W. Bush gave Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave Iraq.

19 "Operation Iraqi Freedom" Launched after Hussein failed to exit Iraq.

1 Bush announced the major battle operations of the war were over.

14 Hussein captured nine miles from his hometown, Tikrit, hiding in a hole in the ground.

Emergence & *Advancement*



*Forging toward the
centennial celebration,
generations of Bearcat tradition
emerged. The university looked
toward advancement in education,
scholarships, enrollment and
curriculum.*

Trivial Visions

by Kara Swink

After three years behind closed doors, questions remain unanswered.

Students and faculty were thrown on a rollercoaster with twists and turns as news circulated around the possible merger with the University of Missouri system.

The five-month ride came to an abrupt stop in late-September. Discussions decelerated one week after 4th District State Rep. Brad Lager called an emergency Faculty Senate meeting with Faculty Senate President Mike Wilson to discuss merger concerns within departments.

"I will not let this move forward until questions are answered, and that includes questions directed at the Cabinet," Lager said. "There is no way I could stand on the floor and defend a merger without information to do it."

The weekend of Sept. 20, 2003 President Dean Hubbard spoke with University of Missouri system President Elson Floyd and called an emergency faculty and staff meeting later that week that hinted at a stall in the merger. Hubbard then distributed a campus-wide e-mail Sept. 25 to inform faculty, staff and students that it had been agreed upon not to seek legislation at that time.

"We now realize that such a timeline is unrealistic," Hubbard said within the e-mail. "It is not in the interest of either side to rush into something of this magnitude without answering as many questions as can possibly be answered."

Hubbard stressed talks would remain, but the university no longer faced the Jan. 1 deadline of drafting a proposal for state legislators. Instead, the universities decided to establish a "strategic partnership" to test out a collaboration possibility.

"The decision to delay the recommendation to the (Board of Regents and Curators) was made by both (Hubbard and Floyd)," Provost Taylor Barnes said. "There's not the sense of urgency there would have been had we pressed on. We owe it to our board, and we need to be accountable for the information we give them."

If the university ever joined the UM system, it would be the first in 40 years to unite with the campuses in Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla and St. Louis.

News broke to the public April 5, 2003 after Barnes called an emergency Faculty Senate meeting to share what Hubbard and his Cabinet discussed three days before.

During the April 7 press conference, Hubbard explained a merger was not a thought that just "occurred momentarily," but one in discussion for three years. At the time, Hubbard believed a merger with the UM system would accomplish long-term goals.

"We want to build on the strengths we've received over the years," he said. " (The merge) opens up enormous possibilities for enrichment of our curriculum and improving the efficiency of our curriculum."

The same day, more than 400 students, faculty and community members sounded off at a town hall meeting with questions and support regarding the plans to consolidate with the UM system.

Those in attendance expressed concerns regarding tuition hikes, faculty decision input, enrollment, traditions and the urgency the administration placed on the proposal.

Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership Bill Lockwood said the administration needed to deliberate the idea before administrators presented it to legislators.

"I think before we move into this, we need to dot our 'I's and cross our 'T's," he said.

One student was taken aback after he asked on behalf of the student body if students would be able to cast a vote on the idea of a merge.

"This is the Board's decision," Hubbard said. "It is clear the Board is constitutionally and legally empowered to make a decision-not me, so tough luck."

The UM system Board of Curators unanimously passed a proposal for the merger April 16, 2003. The decision came three days after the university's Board of Regents approved the proposal 6-1 with one member abstaining.

At that time, the Regents also sent a recommendation to change the name to the University of Missouri-Northwest.

After the Board's meeting, Hubbard said the prospects of a merge were coming along swiftly.

"I think the quicker you can move through the legislature, the better," Hubbard said. " (The enabling legislation) is not complicated. What (the state legislators) are making is a decision to allow the boards to make a decision."

"I personally don't see anything to gain by stringing that out. In fact, my guess is, if that gets strung out for a year, the likelihood of it happening will diminish every day."

Negotiations were first put on standstill while Hubbard and Floyd waited for the 2004 fiscal budget in summer 2003.

As discussions continued in August 2003, faculty and staff became irritated that merger questions regarding published research, insurance and benefits, admissions standards, its Culture of Quality and student population remained unanswered.

"The devil's in the details," Political Science professor Richard Fulton said. "But the thing is we don't have very many details."

Vice President of Finance, Ray Courter, told senators that some answers could not be provided until a merger occurred.

"I want to reinforce that we all want to have our questions answered," Courter said. "But right now, we can't give you what you want."

According to Hubbard, he finally agreed it would be in the best interest of both institutions if questions were answered before legislators received the proposal.

"I think the next step is to finish what we're doing," Hubbard said. "We need to draft an algorithm. The final algorithm just takes too long (to meet the deadline). Then you have to test it, and that takes longer."

The possible merger with the University of Missouri system stalled Sept. 25. "We've realized things are more complex, some of the issues will take more time, really a couple of years," Vice President of University Relations Tom Vansaghi said. photo illustration by Joni Williamson



Cheerleaders spark enthusiasm for administrators at the announcement of an anonymous \$10 million donation. The money would help fund various scholarships. *photo by Theresa Chodini*

University President Dean Hubbard divulges information to an eager crowd about the donation recently given to the university. This was the largest donation the university ever received. *photo by Mike Dye*



The Northwest band plays at the announcement of an anonymous \$10 million donation. Cheerleaders and Bobby Bearcat were present to celebrate the announcement. *photo by Mike Dye*



Unfathomable. donation

by Kara Swink

Donors made educational goals a reality by surpassing the university's first formal campaign years ahead of schedule.

Private donations exceeded the university's goal of "21 million for the 21st Century" and expanded after President Dean Hubbard announced the anonymous gift Sept. 13. The Northwest Foundation Inc. confirmed an anonymous donor invested \$10 million for student scholarships.

Those in attendance expected to receive an update on the progress of the campaign and celebrate the renovated football stadium, but the donation announcement left many speechless.

"One thing that has always struck me about the source is an unquenchable desire to help others, particularly in terms of providing opportunity for youth," Hubbard said.

After the donation, Northwest and the University of Missouri-Columbia stood as the only public institutions in the state to secure an eight-figure gift. The donation became the university's largest gift in 98 years.

Hubbard said the individual's "strong ties to Northwest" played a part in the donation, because they believed in the future of the university.

"This objective is a perfect fit with our tradition of serving first-generation college students," Hubbard said. "The donor knows the value of higher education, as well as the importance of scholarship support to provide

opportunities to young people to enhance their lives."

Hubbard gave two reasons why the donor wanted to stay anonymous: They did not want other charities to feel slighted, and the donor did not want their lifestyle to change.

"The donor leads a modest life," he said. "They don't want to become a celebrity. They just wanted to give something back."

When the campaign began Jan. 1, 2000, the steering committee hoped to raise \$10 million for student initiatives, \$5.5 million for business and \$5.5 million for athletics.

The donation pushed the total money raised for student scholarships to more than \$16 million. The significant jump from the predicted \$4 million surprised the campaign committee.

Dick Leet, chairman of the campaign, expressed excitement about the lid blown off the original goal, because the university never raised \$1 million in any given year before 1999.

"We felt like \$21 million over seven years would be a reasonable goal," Leet said. "To say that we underestimated the loyalty, willingness and wherewithal of our Northwest supporters would be an understatement. This puts Northwest in an entirely new arena of public universities nationwide."

A large group gathers at a press conference when University President Dean Hubbard announced a \$10 million donation. The crowd walked with the band and cheerleaders to the football game after the announcement. photo by Mike Dye

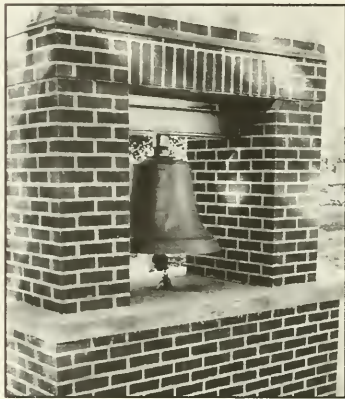
Eight-figure gift exceeds university goals.



History's touch

University family's dedication to preserve and contribute to traditions.

by Megan Heuer



The Bell of '48 stands encircled by benches in front of the Administration Building. The class of 1948 donated the bell as a way to honor students, staff or faculty if they passed away.
photo by Theresa Chudina

Generations passed on traditions to keep the constantly changing student body in touch with their past.

"I think traditions are very important in cultural communities," Professor of Communication, Theatre, and Languages Theophil Ross said. "Like universities and any kind of organization, it's important to look back and see things that either actually happened or actually were designed. (There) are those that have somehow evolved because it's that way that we keep in touch with our roots."

Traditions sustained through generations of change. Controversy occurred throughout the decades and transitions brought a new culture to campus.

"Northwest tradition is very strong," Ross said. "I think because there's a lot of closeness among the students and close attachment for the alumni."

Bell of 1948

The class of 1948 donated the bell to be rung when one of the university students, faculty or staff members passed away.

Political Science Professor Richard Fulton said since the bell was added to campus, families and students gathered around the bell for ringing ceremonies.

"It's a nice way to sort of bring some closure in regards to the university," Fulton said.

The bell also signaled students on Walk Out Day to leave their classes and begin Homecoming celebrations.

Bell Tower

President Robert Foster oversaw the construction of the Bell Tower in 1970. The class of 1964 and 1,100 other donors gave \$76,000 to construct the Bell Tower.

"There was some controversy about it because it's a nonfunctional characteristic of the university," English Professor David Slater said.

Slater said some of the issues discussed were the placement of the Bell Tower in relation to its architecture and early maintenance problems.

"I think eventually, as it developed, it became a focal point for all sorts of things: student gatherings, Greek gatherings, music," Slater said. "There were even times when people

would give sort of speeches from that place. So, the controversy went away relatively quickly."

Hickory Stick

The tradition of the Hickory Stick began in 1931 when the university was one of five nationwide to lead an undefeated football season. The football team sent a hickory stick to rival Northeast Missouri State University (Truman State University) as a traveling trophy. One week later, the Hickory Stick returned to Northwest.

The Stroller

'Your Man' made his first appearance in the Jan. 18, 1918 edition of the university paper, the *Green and White Courier* that later became known as the *Northwest Missourian*. The Stroller, an anonymous writer, turned into a source of wisdom and advice for students and faculty.

"It's had a lot of controversy over the years because to some degree it is anonymous, and because the writers often take off on issues—sometimes doing well and sometimes going over the edge a little bit," Fulton said. "They often become provocative but that's what's kind of good about it."

The Kissing Bridge

Legend stated the bridge staged where freshmen girls must be kissed before the first snowfall to become a woman. Other myths included if students weren't kissed they'd never find true love. The myth behind the bridge developed soon after it came to campus.

"The kissing bridge is such a unique tradition here; I think that novelty makes it special," Ross said. "I do know that sometimes the coeds come back or the female students come back and report 'well I was finally kissed.' They watch the countdown to the snow or whatever the particular tradition has to be. I think it's (a tradition) that's a lot of fun."

Some university traditions weren't physically visible but rituals of a deeper meaning.

Fulton said the most important tradition became the demanding faculty and hard working student body; they defined the university.

"It's a faculty that's really devoted to teaching. You don't always find that dedication, that kind of support for each other. It's kind of family, sometimes a little dysfunctional but still a family."



The kissing bridge is structured near Colden Pond with benches and flowering trees surrounding it. Several traditions and myths accompanied the bridge, including that the man a woman kissed on the bridge would become her husband. *photo by Mike Dye*



The Bell Tower marks the center of key buildings on campus and serves as a gathering point for university functions. Myth said if students stepped on the seal underneath they wouldn't graduate. *photo by Mike Dye*



NORTHWEST
James L. Hubberts
President

s
o
J
ur
tar
he
mus
T
Nar
able
O
univ
one
lar
ward
Hub
all
admir
there
The
that
made
Hubb
no
after
He
impro
Culture
the
1992

University
gains
Tenn
no

Baldrige heads platinum anniversary

by Amber Brazil

Stepping onto the university greens in 1984, he did not anticipate staying 20 years. Surpassing his own expectations, his commitment to quality hooked the campus family and blossomed into two decades of continuous progress.

Though the administration accomplished numerous successes under his guidance, University President Dean Hubbard refused to take credit. With another award for the university at his fingertips, he only commended others.

"The things I am most proud of are all things that I didn't do by myself, and that's the way it is," Hubbard said.

The contributions of many made the 2003 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award site visit possible. The award nomination added to the already lengthy list of achievements.

Out of the 19 schools that applied, kindergarten through university levels, the Baldrige committee selected the university as one of two chosen nationally for site visits. Each underwent a three-day campus evaluation to determine who would obtain the coveted award.

Hubbard felt the pledge to quality and putting the students above all brought the Baldrige team to campus. He stressed, however, the administration did not commit to quality in 1984 to win awards; there were no incentives offered back then.

"The number one principle to guide us in the trek to quality was that students come first," Hubbard said. "That simple commitment made us the first electronic campus in the world."

Hubbard worked on the concept of an electronic campus within six months of his arrival. The university flipped the switch in 1987 after three years of development.

He believed the innovation was the cornerstone for continued improvement. The administration created a document titled Culture of Quality in 1987. It consisted of 47 objectives that made the university a better place, and accomplished all by the 1991-1992 school year.

University President Dean Hubbard showcases his 20 year commitment to quality as the 2003 Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award committee visited campus. "Personally I say the issue is not how long you have been around, but how much you have accomplished," Hubbard said. photo by Mike Dye

The renovation and restoration of existing buildings also made Hubbard proud. University officials devised a plan to repair the deteriorating structures already on campus instead of building more. The construction of new resident suites began after campus improvements were made to the fixable resident halls.

Being economically wise in restoration, setting goals to reach a true culture of quality and taking the risk of installing the first electronic campus in the world were all factors in the awards earned under Hubbard's guidance.

The state consecutively awarded the university the Missouri Quality Award in 1997 and 2002, the only school to win twice. Hubbard received the Missouri Governor's Quality Leadership Award in 1998.

The 2003-2004 school year brought the Baldrige nomination, where a team of experts came to see for themselves what looked so good on paper.

As for the future, Hubbard believed the merger with the University of Missouri system would be a way of thriving, not just surviving.

"The merger has appeared to be a logical next step in the evolution of this institution," Hubbard said. "We are not going to lose our unique identity by doing so. They want us for who we are and have no interest in changing us."

Hubbard created a trademark for the university in his leadership; a trademark he said every person who walked the campus strove to retain.

"You know when ideals have become characteristics and when statements have become scriptures by the acts of the whole Northwest family," Hubbard said.

Hubbard cited examples of the grounds people planting more than 10,000 flowers without being asked to and the students that organized their own society for quality.

"That to me goes back to this issue of a culture," Hubbard said. "What drives people to do things like that? It's just fun to be in an organization where people go the extra mile."

Hubbard said the university was "as good as it gets," and he planned to stay for as long as he was useful.

"I don't think a person should stay a day longer than they're effective, but they shouldn't leave a day earlier."

**After 20
years,
University
leader
says
campus
is "as
good as
it gets."**

Anniversary Preparation

by Kara Swink

Future festivities are planned as the university moves toward 100 years of quality.

Preparations proceeded with great momentum as the university inched closer to celebrating its centennial.

Celebration plans were set to kickoff with a centennial birthday party and time capsule unveiling. The university hoped to complete a \$50,000 statue in commemoration of the event.

Centennial discussions began three years ago about how the university would celebrate its milestone. Angel Harris-Lewis, special assistant to University President Dean Hubbard and coordinator of the celebration, said multitudes of plans were discussed through committees.

In late-September 2003, Harris-Lewis said the only thing the committees decided upon was the theme of "Celebrate Northwest: 100 Years of Traditions and Transitions."

"I wish I could take credit for the theme, because it's such a great one," Harris-Lewis said. "But I can't. We are sharing that theme with the yearbook staff who thought of it. All I can say is that there are some very creative students on that staff."

With the theme established, committees debated the idea of incorporating centennial activities into yearly planned events and the creation of a 100-year Homecoming theme.

As a 1998 graduate, Harris-Lewis said her work on the centennial planning allowed her to give back to the university.

"People feel deeply for this institution, and I'm excited to get the opportunity for Northwest to just make alumni, students and stakeholders very proud," Harris-Lewis said. "Any institution that is lucky enough to see a centennial is great; but when you're lucky enough to have a big part in the planning, it's amazing."

Hubbard believed things were running smoothly when it came to preparations in October.

"I'm excited about all of the ideas being presented," Hubbard said. "It will be a great time for alumni to come back and celebrate 100 years of identity, traditions and relevant transitions."

Harris-Lewis and Director of Campus Activities Bryan VanOsdale started researching keynote speakers to kickoff the centennial celebration.

"This is really our biggest concern," Harris-Lewis said. "We want someone with a big name like Bill Cosby or Oprah Winfrey. We want someone who cares about education and made it a part of their life. But, those people usually have their calendar filled up five years in advance."

Other committees began working on centennial scholarships, logo ideas and various events.

Associate Professor of History and Humanities Janice Brandon-Falcone began working with the centennial committee to brainstorm the idea of a coffee table book that captures the 100-year history.

Brandon-Falcone said she wanted to be a part of the "unique experience" of the centennial plans.

"I'm excited to look at the whole year of 2005 and 2006," she said. "It's going to be an exciting year."

Harris-Lewis said the 2005-2006 academic year would not only be a milestone to celebrate but a way to connect the university family.

"We do hope to use this opportunity to increase the visibility of this institution," she said. "And hopefully, this will help us with recruiting additional students in the future."

Hubbard believed enrollment would benefit from the centennial and make the university stronger in the years ahead.

"I want to see it as a thriving and vital university," Hubbard said. "I want it to be as successful as it is today and in the future."

Danny Burns and Latonya Davis pose for the centennial sculpture the university is going to have built. The sculpture will be available for public viewing by spring 2005. photo by Mike Dye



Family's second home

by Megan Heuer

**Immediate
and distant
generations
pass through
the university**

Gathered near Colden Pond, the youngest sister sported a balloon hat and giant sunglasses from the parade, as the rest of the family tossed fits of laughter back and forth.

The Hamilton family won Northwest Family of the Year 2002-2003. Generations of their family attended the university. Daughter Katie Hamilton remembered childhood ties to the university.

"I grew up on this campus," Katie said. "I can remember being really little and my dad sneaking us into Douglas Hall so we could all see what a residence halls looked like."

Parents Barbara and Mark Hamilton attended the university as premedical students. They encouraged their kids to come to campus after they experienced the Bearcat life themselves.

"It's more of a down-home friendlier campus than you see at a lot of other schools," Mark said.

Barbara came to the university because of the activities she did in high school that introduced her to the campus. Mark attended the university because he grew up in the Maryville area. Mark thought of nowhere else to go except his natural surroundings.

Sisters, Natalie and Katie shared the same sorority, Tri Sigma, and after they joined, found their great-aunt and aunt were Sigma alumna. Their great-aunt chartered the sorority when it first began.

"They were Sigma's," Katie said. "So, we kinda got a different perspective on it just because they kinda told us about that aspect of it and what it was like to be in a sorority back then," Katie Hamilton said.

The girls talked about sharing the same group of friends and how Greek orientation brought them together. The girls' aunts told them about some of the changes and memories in the residence halls from their active Sigma days.

"They think it's funny that we can do the things that we do," Katie said. "Like, the residence halls don't have a curfew anymore and they're always telling us about how they had to sneak into the residence halls."

Both parents noticed change in the campus buildings such as the Lamkin Activity Center, Colden Hall and Owens Library. The buildings were renovated and in better condition than when they attended the university. Mark liked the idea of freshman orientation for his kids. He thought the experience gave students a great way to get acquainted with campus. Campus technology also impressed the Hamiltons.

"It's unique the way they wired the campus with a computer in every room," Mark said. "That's amazing for a school this size to really grasp the Internet and really make that a part of campus life. I think that's tremendous right there."

Three generations of the Hamilton family attended the university with several extended family members. Culture, campus and people changed but the heart of the university kept them coming back year after year.

The Hamilton family pose at the Colden Pond gazebo. Three generations of the Hamilton's have attended Northwest. Parents Barbara and Mark and their children, Megan, Natalie, Trevor and Katie won the Family of the Year award in 2002.

Photo by Trevor Hayes





Graduate Assistant Keri Fairchild talks with Derek Bulk about attending the university. Fairchild works as a Student Ambassador who showcases the university to potential students. photo by Theresa Chiodini

Tour toward success

Population grows
by Ambassadors hard work

by Kara Swink

Wearing green pull over jackets and a smile, Student Ambassadors helped make university history.

As Ambassadors showcased the university throughout the year to prospective freshmen, an average of 78 percent enrolled. Final fall figures showed that tours paid off and brought the enrollment headcount to 6,574, a 1 percent jump from 2002.

"Ambassadors are a huge part of the success of Northwest," third year Ambassador Nathan Lane said. "We couldn't get the numbers if we didn't have the program."

Dean of Enrollment Management Bev Schenkel said the university saw the most growth of first-time freshmen in the Missouri market.

Associate Director of Admissions Jeremy Waldeier believed enrollment figures were outstanding for fall 2003 and said Ambassadors were the reason. Ambassadors became overloaded and normally gave 15 to 20 tours a day.

"Our numbers are up, because we physically get students on campus to truly see the benefits of Northwest," Waldeier said. "The Ambassadors really entice students to enroll here, because they have great enthusiasm and knowledge of the campus."

While freshmen enrollment went up, other areas also expanded. The university's international population grew 7 percent followed by the minority population at 4 percent.

Schenkel said the university's strategic initiative goal forced administration to increase international and minority numbers.

As enrollment escalated and the university's centennial approached, Waldeier believed numbers would continue to grow.

"Hopefully we continue to evolve," Waldeier said. "And with our Ambassadors, I know they'll try their hardest to get students to enroll at Northwest."

Lane agreed the centennial and helpful advice from Ambassadors would keep enrollment thriving.

"I believe Northwest is going to keep growing," Lane said. "When the economy's down, our numbers are still up. Our Northwest family will keep us going no matter what."

Student Ambassador President Betsy Williams gives a tour to Bobbie Buchanan, Danielle Buchanan and Ufuonia Obahor of Raytown, Mo. Williams has been an Ambassador for six trimesters. *photo by Theresa Chudman*





Bobby Bearcat looks at the new scoreboard after the \$1.2 million renovation project made the old scoreboard look like a 10-year-old photo.

Campus charm

Renovation provides 'crown jewel of MIAA'

By Trevor Hayes

Bobby the Bearcat leapt from the water tower and sprinted toward Rickenbrode Stadium. He hurdled the fence and crushed the opponent's helmet. The crowd roared.

About three minutes before kickoff, the new 10x15-foot jumboTron came to life with a video graphic of Bobby running past campus landmarks while intruder sirens blared. As he flew through the air toward the field, two national championship trophies dropped down on either side of the visiting team's helmet, and then the helmet exploded as Bobby landed on it.

One of the new additions to Rickenbrode included "Cat Vision" video board with replay capabilities. After the 2001 season, construction began on the entire west grandstand. Construction crews logged more than 200,000 man-hours to complete the \$5 million renovation.

Kansas City Star reporter David Boyce called the stadium the crown jewel of the MIAA.

"It's very rewarding and typical of Northwest," Vice President of University Advancement Lance Burchett said. "The expectations that Northwest students, faculty and alumni have for their Alma mater is nothing short of the best. So, it was a very fitting tribute. That gives it a certain amount of credibility. It wasn't an in-house moniker that we self-titled ourselves."

Burchett led the fund-raising campaign for the stadium and served on the Stadium Fund-raising Committee. The 48-member committee had the task of finding donations. They sold naming rights to suites and entrances, suite season tickets and the new hairback and railback seats.

The committee found more than 600 donors, 18 of which donated two-thirds of the gifts. By dedication day \$4 million had been paid.

"We've had members of this community who we've refrained from asking for significant private support in the past, who really stepped up and delivered this time," Burchett said. "The bottom line is, if it weren't for the Foundation Board members and the major gift donors, this stadium would still be just a dream."

The dream started 10 years earlier under former Athletic Director Jim Redd. As the dream turned into reality, Bob Boerigter took over as athletic director in May 2001.

"Part of our goal was to make football game day a real experience," Boerigter said. "I can't imagine anything being any nicer than what we have."

Renovation of the west grandstand and press box remained when Boerigter took over. The track, ticket booths, concessions and student seating on the east side had been completed in earlier years.

Alumni provided \$3 million to renovate the east side stands and the rest of the project.

With the stadium complete, fans experienced something unlike anything they ever had at Rickenbrode.

"There's just no comparison," Burchett said. "We had, arguably, the nation's best Division II football program, but the facility that they played in was the elephant in the corner that few people wanted to address, our Achilles' heel. Now, our coaches don't

have to apologize for the facilities here at Northwest. In fact, it's one of our greatest selling points."

The coaches weren't apologizing. They were in awe of Rickenbrode.

"It's just something that when you walk into, you just have a real sense of pride because of what we've got here," head football coach Mel Tjeerdsma said.

Bearcat pride flowed through Rickenbrode. Tjeerdsma and the team wanted to establish their home.

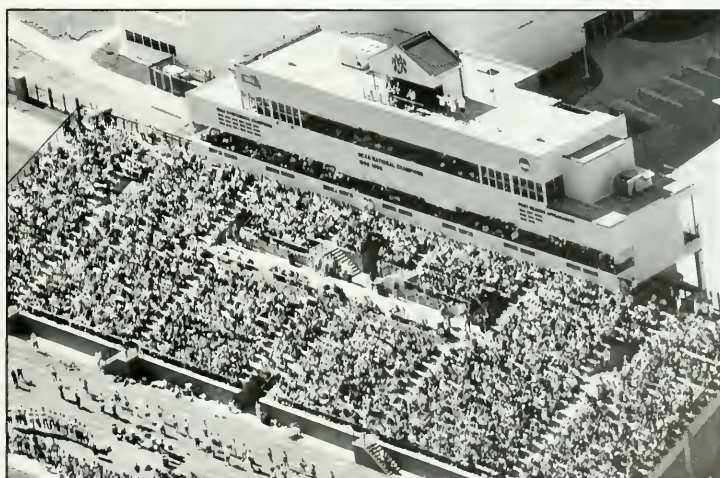
"It's been a great atmosphere," Tjeerdsma said. "I think after the first couple of games, we kind of got through the newness of it, and now, it's more like home. We had a great crowd, an enthusiastic crowd, and I just thought that we really responded to that well. The thing that we've got to do is re-establish being a dominant team at home."

With their "crown jewel" broken in, the Bearcats tried to crush every team that came into Rickenbrode like Bobby had on the video board before the games.

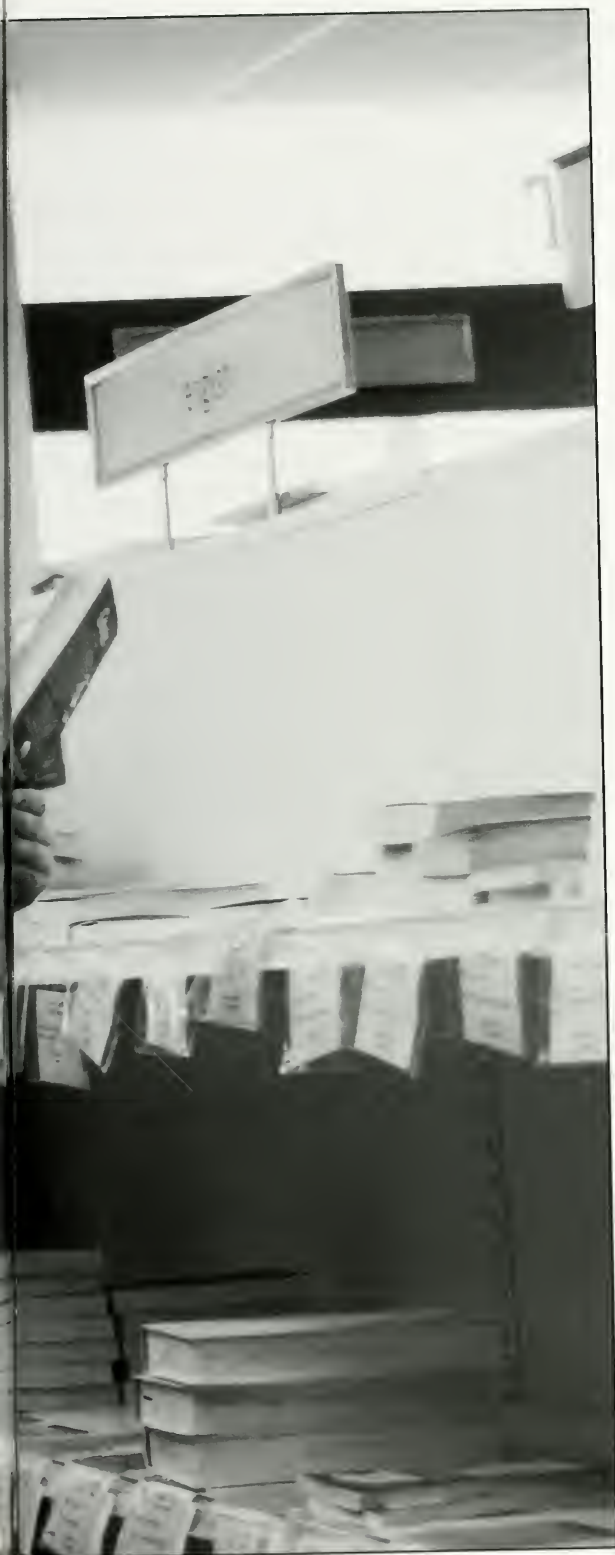
To help with home field dominance, the crowd added itself to the mix. The taller grandstand and higher capacity allowed fans to impact the games with their noise level and become the "12th man" on the field.

"That's a mental thing, that you feel so good about playing at home," Tjeerdsma said. "I think we're drawing on that a little bit. I'd like to, in the future, be to that point to where you just know when you go out to that stadium that somebody has to be exceptional to even come close to us."

An aerial shot of Rickenbrode stadium shows the renovated westside of the stadium during the Homecoming game. The Bearcats beat Missouri Southern State University 47-14. photo by Mike Dye







Academic expansion brought new challenges to students. Minors in dance, computer networking and

Challenge visual journalism in addition to a master's in geology and geographic information systems pushed through layers of approval.

A proposal that would establish an honors program had not cleared the Curriculum Committee as of March but the administration expected approval by the end of the term.

Plans to expand the electronic campus would provide fall 2004 campus apartment and suite residents with notebook computers.

The Missouri Academy looked toward new Dean Cleo Samudzi for future achievements, while both the College of Arts and Sciences and the Booth College

Achievement

of Professional Studies interviewed candidates for the for dean positions.

Freshmen Tiffany Dickerson and Jessica Jacaway, sort through class material at the Bearcat book store for classes spring trimester. Most students were required to purchase outside reading material for their classes. photo by Mike Dye

New student regent, Steven Terry, plans to utilize past experience in his position. Terry was also the president of the Interfraternity Council. *photo by Mike Dye*



Experience leads to new challenges

New regent represents student voice.

by Sarah Swedberg

As the university began its quest to merge with the University of Missouri System, Steven Terry embarked on his responsibility to students as the new Student Regent.

Terry said if the university became part of the UM System, both the Board of Regents and the Student Regent would have the same rights and responsibilities but different names.

The Board of Regents' name would change to the Board of Trustees, and Terry's title would become student trustee.

Terry said he believed the university would merge, changing its name to the University of Missouri-Northwest.

"There really isn't a reason why we should not (merge)," Terry said. "We're the only university north of I-70 that was looked at to become part of the UM system."

He also said the university always looked for ways to improve its quality.

"UM noticed that, and they took the initiative to embrace the qualities Northwest has to offer," Terry said.

Whether students agreed or disagreed with the merger, Terry said every student should have taken the opportunity to educate themselves about the merger before they decided if they were for or against it.

"Students should look at the merger as an opportunity to change and to grow," Terry said. "That is what education should be about."

Just as he had led in campus organizations and youth leadership programs, Terry said he gained a majority of his leadership skills from the Army.

He served with the United States Army Special Operations Command where he was a Civil Affairs Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge. During Terry's time as an officer, he served as soldiers' leader, mentor and friend. He also served as a liaison between non-government organizations such as UNICEF, the United Nations, local government municipalities and ethnic groups.

"I was the communication between all of them," Terry said. "I served as an unbiased representative, so I could convey each constituent's ideas and concerns."

He said the certain situations he was placed in through his service in the army helped him gain leadership.

"I think that in those years of military before I even came to school that I developed certain types of morals, and I developed a certain character, a leadership driven character," Terry said. "I think it's one of my strongest accolades that I convey."

Terry said he attributed it to organizations on campus he was involved in such as Student Ambassadors and Interfraternity Council.

"I think that you can gain something from everything that you do and from every single person you meet," Terry said. "My philosophy was to meet as many people as I could, do as much as I can and that would make me more experienced and make me more perceptive to other people's thoughts and needs."

Terry took what he believed in to inform students and represent them.

"I want as many students to inform me about their concerns as possible," Terry said. "I want to try and reach as many students as I can."

Terry said it would be difficult to get every single student's concern, but he looked forward to the challenge.

"I am going to have to take the overall concerns of the students and the overall beliefs and ideas of students," he said. "I am going to have to make those into an actual framework in order to present those to the Board of Regents."

Deb Toomey, assistant director of advisement, said she knew Terry would make a great student regent.

"I think that he will respect the office and his duty as a student representative to the Board of Regents, rather than just be a part of the regents," Toomey said.

He said he anticipated the valuable experiences he would gain in serving students in organizations to non-traditional students and first-generation students like him.

"I am excited about the irreplaceable experience that I am going to gain over the next two years," Terry said. "I don't think that there is a more historic time to be involved in this position as a student regent because there is so much going on with the merger."

I was the communication between all of them. I served as an unbiased representative, so I could convey each constituent's ideas and concerns.

-Steven Terry



academy Dean Cleo Samudzi associates with Andy Moore, Michael Troxell and Laura Dotson in the academy lounge. "Because of the changes last year, some of the students need reassurance and I am here to provide that," Samudzi said. photo by Nicole Richards



'Personal' Selection

Academy hires new dean replacement.

by Megan Heuer

Y

oung accelerated students would occupy the rooms at the Missouri Academy, but as summer 2003 came to an end, one key ingredient to their formula of advancement was missing.

The Missouri Academy began its search for a new dean after Russell Pinizzotto didn't renew his contract for the fall 2003 trimester, which left the academy searching for a new dean. Former university chemistry professor Edward Farquhar was asked by Provost Taylor Barnes to temporarily fill the position until a replacement dean could be hired. Farquhar knew his position was temporary, so he chose to concentrate on maintaining a stable atmosphere rather than promoting change.

Farquhar said he enjoyed learning about the day-to-day activity that occurred inside the doors of the academy because he was one of the faculty members that started the process of creating the academy.

Committees were arranged to begin the replacement process, the most important being the search committee of seven members. Second year academy student Cory Pate was chosen to be the student representative.

"Personally, I was looking for someone who was obviously passionate about the type of work they would be doing here," Pate said.

Considering the circumstances, Farquhar did a good job as the temporary dean, Pate said. The academy students received help with physics homework from the former professor.

Pate reviewed applications, selecting those to receive interviews and then discussing his personal views, as well as the views of the other academy students, with the search committee.

Cleo Samudzi was selected to become the new Missouri Academy Dean February 2004. Pate said Samudzi impressed him with how consistent he remained in his hard work, care for others and love for life in his work and at home.

Eight academy students had dinner with Samudzi in an informal atmosphere. Samudzi impressed Pate once again when he arrived.

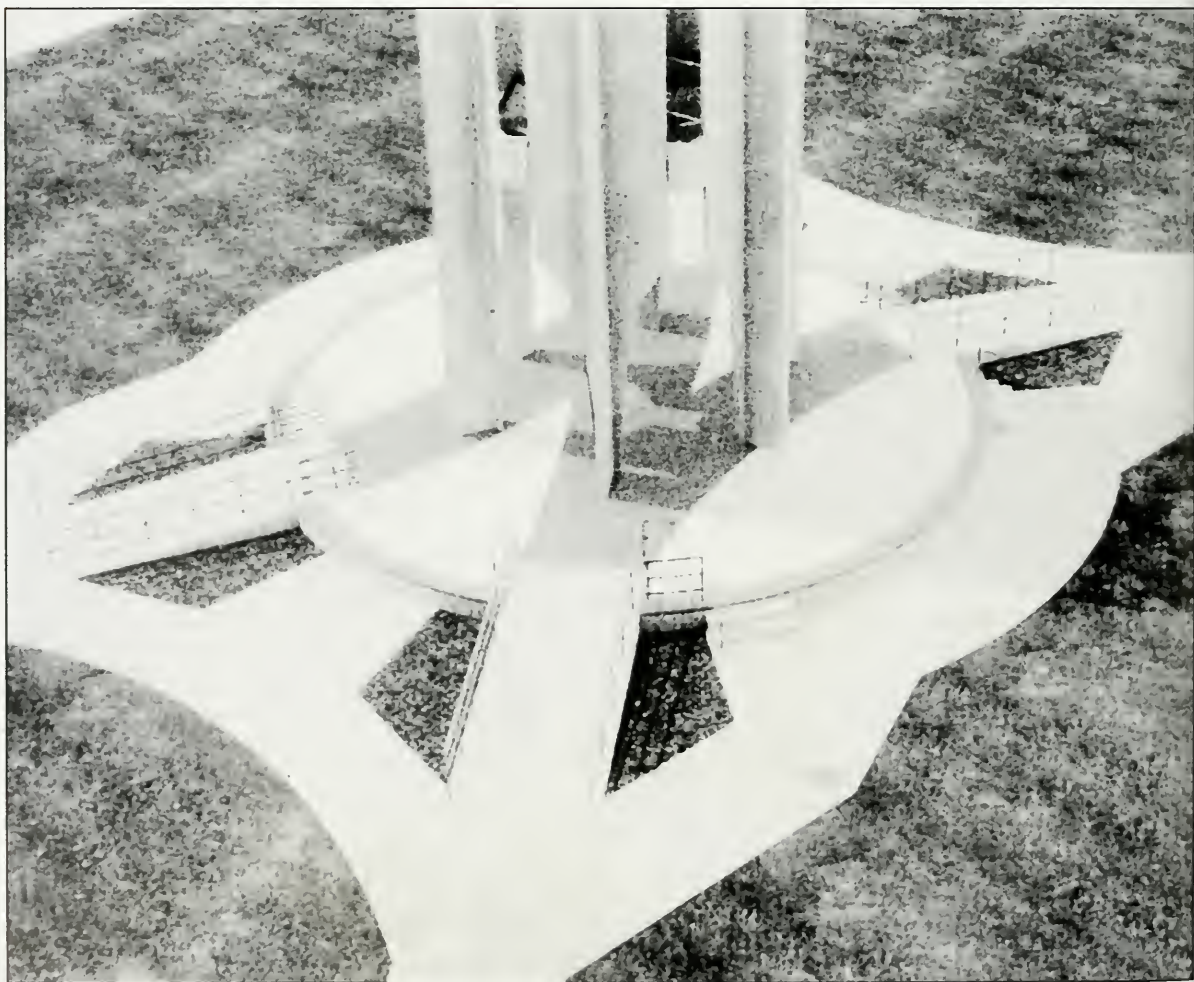
"He was wearing jeans and a nicer shirt, but he had dressed down from his suit," Pate said. "I liked the fact that he did not feel like he had to overly impress us or try to put on an act and that he could be genuine, natural and comfortable around the students and staff."

Samudzi said his main goals were to ensure a goal system such as the nationally recognized seven-step process the university used. Samudzi said the academy needed to function as a team and that meant every member had to work.

For Farquhar, giving up his temporary position came easily as he looked forward to retirement.

"My big job was just calming the waters," Farquhar said.

Plans for the 2004 renovations show the redesigned base for the Bell Tower. Renovations would make the tower handicap accessible and would tear down the brick walls around the base. *blueprint.cuwwater.org/University Relations*



Face of history reformed

Bell Tower renovations set to add handicap access and to remove seal.

by Trevor Hayes

A 100-foot tall, white tower welcomed students to campus for the first time in 1971, but after 33 years, the songs and chimes began to diminish.

In the late '90s, university officials noted the tower's weathered state and placed it on a renovation list. They approved renovations to begin in May 2004 and be completed before the fall trimester. They determined \$300,000 from the repair and maintenance fund would cover the costs.

"I appreciate what's being done. Just like any building, it needs renovations," former University President Robert Foster said. "I'm very pleased with the decision to have it renovated and to keep it as the center of student activity."

Building the tower served as a way to honor Foster's tenure as president and to launch the Northwest Foundation. Donations from the foundation's students and alumni provided financial support for the university.

"It started out as an idea, and no one thought it could be done," Foster said. "We were trying to unify the student body and give them something to work towards, and we felt the tower would satisfy that."

The Bell Tower surpassed many of Foster and the donors' expectations. Alan Peterson, a 1970 graduate, proposed and held his wedding under the tower. KZLX threw its first birthday party there, and candlelight vigils were held around it to remember disasters and tragedies.

Letters on the seal under the tower gradually wore off from foot traffic, despite campus legends tied to walking around it. Droughts dried the concrete, cracking it and the plaza. Rust lined the inside of the structure and a piece of the tower broke off after numerous repairs.

Renovation plans included removing the seal, to be used later in a historic walk, placing an "N" under the tower and redesigning walkways. The plans also included sandblasting the rust, making the

tower handicap accessible, adding benches and installing new lighting to make the tower glow.

"In terms of design and thinking about all of the elements of history, of humanity, there are a lot of those symbols woven into that design," Vice President of Finance and Support Services Ray Courter said. "It has a lot of meaningful elements, we are respecting that. We are just updating it."

Despite the Bell Tower's importance and significance to the campus environment, many students didn't believe the renovations were worth the cost. Freshman Christina Magnifico thought the money could be used for renovating other university buildings.

"I just think that, perhaps, we're spending a little bit too much money on something that no one really cares all that much about in the first place," Magnifico said. "I think it's kind of a hideous monstrosity in the middle of our campus."

Students opposed to the Bell Tower's renovations were not the first to voice their opinions against it. When the idea of the tower first surfaced in the late '60s and early '70s, students protested against its construction. As a student at that time, construction manager David Duvall disagreed with the university.

"We were against anything that represented the establishment," Duvall said. "Since (the tower) was brought on by Dr. Foster and a lot of the administration, that just naturally made it a bad thing for those of us who were rebellious. It was short-sighted on our part, and a good vision on their part."

Like Duvall, Courter learned to appreciate the tower. He attended the university before its installation and returned as an employee afterward.

"I've kind of learned, myself, to appreciate it, and I think that's true of students after they've been away for a few years," Courter said. "Their appreciation for (the tower) has changed, matured a bit from what it was everyday to reflecting back on its meaning later on."

President's Cabinet

Life changing moments
by Megan Heuer

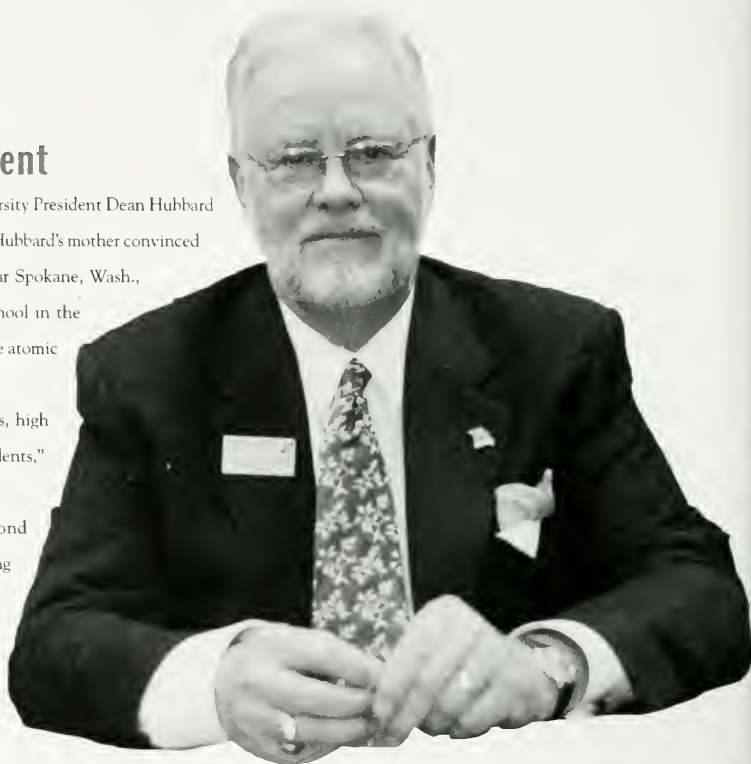
Dean Hubbard President

Starting his life in the small town of Kiona, Wash., University President Dean Hubbard was the only one in his class to graduate from college. When Hubbard's mother convinced him to go the Upper High School Columbia Academy near Spokane, Wash., most of the other students from his hometown went to school in the nearby town of Benton City and trained to be workers for the atomic weapons plant in Hanford.

"Culturally, it was like going to Mars for me: dress codes, high academic standards and high expectations among the students," Hubbard said.

Hubbard attended the academy with no plans beyond graduation. During his sophomore year, he encountered a young teacher he grew to admire, Harold Oakes, who made him promise to attend college giving Hubbard aspiration to do something with his life after he finished the academy.

"The impact of that young teacher who saw something in me changed the direction of my life."

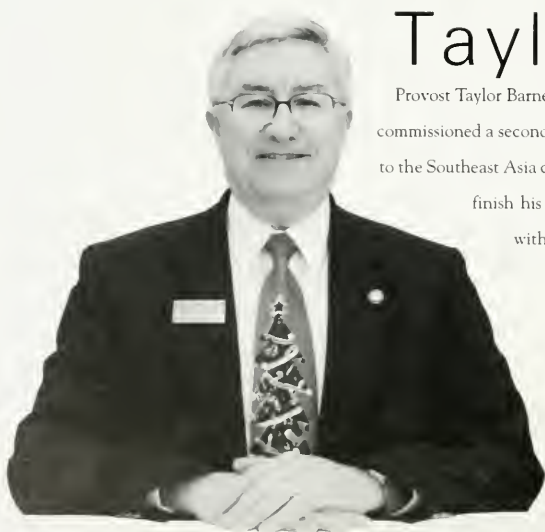


Taylor Barnes Provost

Provost Taylor Barnes began college at the University of Missouri in 1963. ROTC was mandatory and he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Airforce. Barnes didn't enter active duty until 1970 due to the Southeast Asia conflicts and because he wanted to earn his master's degree in geography. His goals were to finish his active duty and become a college geography professor. When time came for Barnes to withdraw from the military, one of his superiors questioned his motives.

"I applied to get out and I had a commanding officer, a general, that questioned why I wanted to get out," Barnes said. "He said, 'Taylor, I'm surprised that you're wanting to separate from the airforce. You're doing such a good job in the airforce. Now, tell me what your plans are.'"

After the general convinced Barnes to continue his teaching career at the Airforce Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. he began a career leading to his doctorate and becoming head of the department at the academy. Barnes believed his decision to comply led him to his career at the university.



Angel Harris-Lewis

Special Assistant to the President

Angel Harris-Lewis earned the opportunity to represent the United States in the International Negotiation Competition sponsored by the International Bar Association in London July 2002. The teams negotiated several issues and competed against other countries in their bracket. Taking second place, the United States came in only one point behind the champions of a different bracket.

Because the winning team never directly competed against the United States, Harris-Lewis felt the competition unjust. However, she moved on taking with her a lesson that involved negotiating in general.

"The only difference is the magnitude," Harris-Lewis said. "There's not one entire day you get through without negotiating."



Tom Vansaghi

Vice President for University Relations

After graduating from the university in 1991 with a political science degree, Vice President of University Relations Tom Vansaghi waited tables and took a year off before beginning law school. During that time, he decided to volunteer on the former Lieutenant Governor Mel Carnahan's campaign for Missouri governor. Vansaghi's decision to bypass law school and pursue a doctorate in political science resulted from his decision to volunteer for the campaign.

"What amazes me about the decision I made almost 13 years ago is that I decided to volunteer my time and it made all the difference," Vansaghi said.

Vansaghi retired from the Cabinet in December 2003 to pursue a career overlooking the four community colleges in the Kansas City area.



Jon Rickman

Vice President for Information Systems

A workshop on programming the IBM 1620 computer led Vice President for Info Systems Jon Rickman to a life of advanced programming capabilities. Rickman wanted to expand his knowledge, and four years after the workshop, he developed a Ph.D. program in Computer Science, one of the first available during the time.

"Having a foundation in basic computing equipment, machine language programming and growing with evolution of software development helps you understand developing new technology."



President's Cabinet

Continued from 123



Ray Courter

Vice President for Finance and Support Services

Ray Courter grew up on a farm without plumbing but plenty of chores to go around.

Being an only child, Courter farmed chickens, cows, hogs, cattle, corn,

beans, milo and wheat. Courter said his parents were hard

workers and instilled that value in him. He compared the

lessons he learned to what today's young adults learn by

having a part time job. Courter associates his hard-

earned values from the farm with his job as vice

president of finance.

"You learn a lot about responsibility and

doing things on those days you least feel

like it," Courter said.

Kent Porterfield

Vice President for Student Affairs

As Kent Porterfield worked toward a doctoral degree he worked along side his fellow classmates. There were a lot of research projects the students worked on together. As Vice President of Student Affairs, Porterfield used what he learned in his everyday job.

"I learned a lot from those people about leadership issues, about policy issues, about just in general how to be an ongoing or continuous learner," Porterfield said. "I think those folks helped shape the way I lead today and certainly helped influence some of the approaches that I use."



Bob Boerigter

Director of Athletics

Throughout his coaching career, Director of Athletics Bob Boerigter learned about coping with bad calls, exalting victories and moving past defeat. Win or lose, the past couldn't be changed and Boerigter applied that to his professional life. By trying to be a positive leader, Boerigter focused on what could be controlled and looked at things with a different perspective.

"You can't spend time reflecting," Boerigter said. "You need to move on to the next challenge."



Lance Burchett

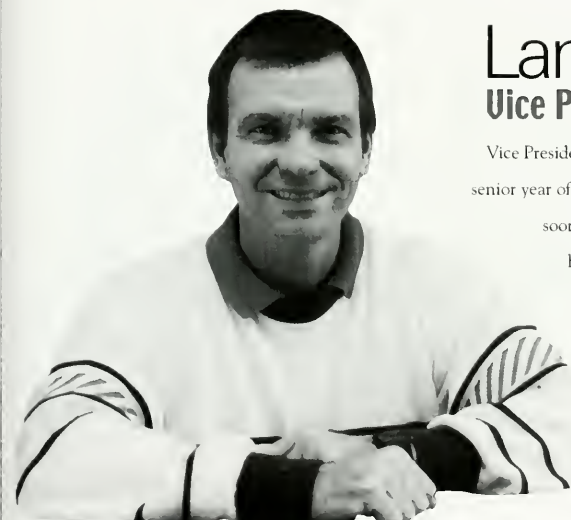
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Vice President of University Advancement Lance Burchett, took his first visit to Hawaii in 1979, his senior year of high school. Eight years later, he took his bride Sherry there for their honeymoon, and soon after, his parents purchased a property on the enchanting islands. Burchett said Hawaii had a rich culture based on "ohana," or family, and faith in God.

"The current moment is treasured. The wind, sand, waves, mountains, fruit trees, all have an intertwined presence that transcends individuality for a greater purpose," Burchett said.

His father grasped the concept of "ohana" early in life and Burchett tried to show his own two sons, Chase and Halen, what he once was taught.

"Now my sons have it, and it makes me appreciate my father and Hawaii even more."



Mary Throener

Director of Human Resources

After high school Director of Human Resources Mary Throener entered the workplace. Soon after, the man she worked for told her she should be in college and he walked her to the bank where she applied for her first student loan.

"I would probably say that because of that, it changed the course of my life so, I went on and got a college degree, got a master's degree," Throener said. "He kind of confirmed for me that I could do what I wanted to do, no matter what that choice was."

Throener said she tried to pass on what her boss once gave her and encouraged students to pursue higher goals.



Board of Regents

Life changing moments
by Megan Heuer

Jim Johnson President

Graduating from college as well as serving his country during the Vietnam War impacted Board of Regent President Jim Johnson greatly. His experience gave him an immense amount of patriotism and pride in his country.

"I gained deep respect for the sacrifices of our predecessors who, down through the years, have put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms and Christian heritage," Johnson said. "This experience gave me a deep appreciation for my Christian upbringing and the family values that were instilled during my youth."



Rita B. Hanks Vice President

As a teacher, Rita Hanks always saw the school board in a different perspective. After being elected a member of the Smithville R-II Board of Education, she learned more about the management of a school district and her views changed drastically. Serving on the board for 21 years gave her commitment to education.

"This service to education and my community was, of course, one of the reasons I was asked to serve on Northwest's Board of Regents," Hanks said. "Service to my community and my state has been a strong focus in my life."





Juan M. Rangel, Jr.

Board Member

Juan Rangel began volunteering his time as a young boy when he shoveled the neighbor lady's drive for free. He said his parents taught him the lessons, that shaped him. First, they taught him you receive twice as much as you give. Secondly, they said what a person does should be done because it is the right thing to do.

"Volunteering is learning from opportunities, being able to give back, whether it's time, money or experiences," Rangel said. "And my parents are right, they always have been, I've received so many gifts because of what I've been able to give. I have a great life."

Rollie Stadlman

Board Member

In 1979, a fire broke out in the administration building on campus and completely destroyed radio equipment within the building. Rollie Stadlman was the manager of KCTV at the time. As community and staff pulled together to set up a makeshift broadcasting station, the radio was up and running the following morning.

"Anytime things get bad I realize that no matter how bleak things look that if you have enough people pulling and pushing for you everything is going to be just fine," Stadlman said.



Board of Regents

Continued from 127

Lydia Hurst

Board Member

Lydia Hurst focussed on God to get her through every day. She gave credit to Christianity for everything good in her life and said it guides everything she does.

"I am so thankful for the time in my life when I was being pruned to deepen my relations with the Lord for it has helped me be a better wife, mother, daughter, family member, friend and acquaintance," Hurst said.

Blessed with a loving Christian husband and three lovely children, Hurst said because of her family, she had others to admire and share her faith with.

"Even with all of these gifts, I could not end any day with a sense of satisfaction and peace without God," Hurst said.

"Throughout my days, I receive love, support, forgiveness, miracles, promises, a sense of contentment and many more forms of assistance that enable me to be proud of normal routines and significant events."



Paul Klute

Student Regent

During his senior year of high school, Student Regent Paul Klute severely injured his knee during a football game. The injury ended his football career and made him realize the importance of education.

"After my surgery, I focused heavily on academics and learned that academics were the only way to become successful," Klute said.



Don Schneider

Board Member

Don Schnieder enlisted in the United States Marine Corps after graduating military high school. At age 21, while in DaNang, Vietnam, he received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for saving two fellow soldiers in combat. After spending 13 months in Vietnam, Schnieder suffered from Vietnam Stress Syndrome and searched for a college with a calm atmosphere. Northwest fulfilled his search.

"People from heads of departments, teachers, townspeople reaching out to me helping me really helped me heal," Schnieder said. "The real spring board to the rest of my life was this place."

While at college, Schnieder met his wife, Nini, whom also attended the university. Less than a year after graduation, he was hired as a Secret Service agent and continued a life protecting presidents, the pope and prominent social figures.

Schnieder said the compassion and help the university gave him pulled him through the tough times.

Karen Daniel

Board Member

Karen Daniel credited her life of success to her grandparents. Alyce Cummins, her last remaining grandparent, taught school and valued education above all. She taught Daniel to self reflect and have the courage to continuously improve herself.

"Don't condemn or condone individuals behavior," Daniel said in the words of her grandmother.

Daniel tried to apply the advice to her life as well as her job as chief of finance at Black and Veatch. She applied the value to each shareholder helping them the most she possibly could. She settled for nothing less than fair when dealing with situations.



Doug Sutton

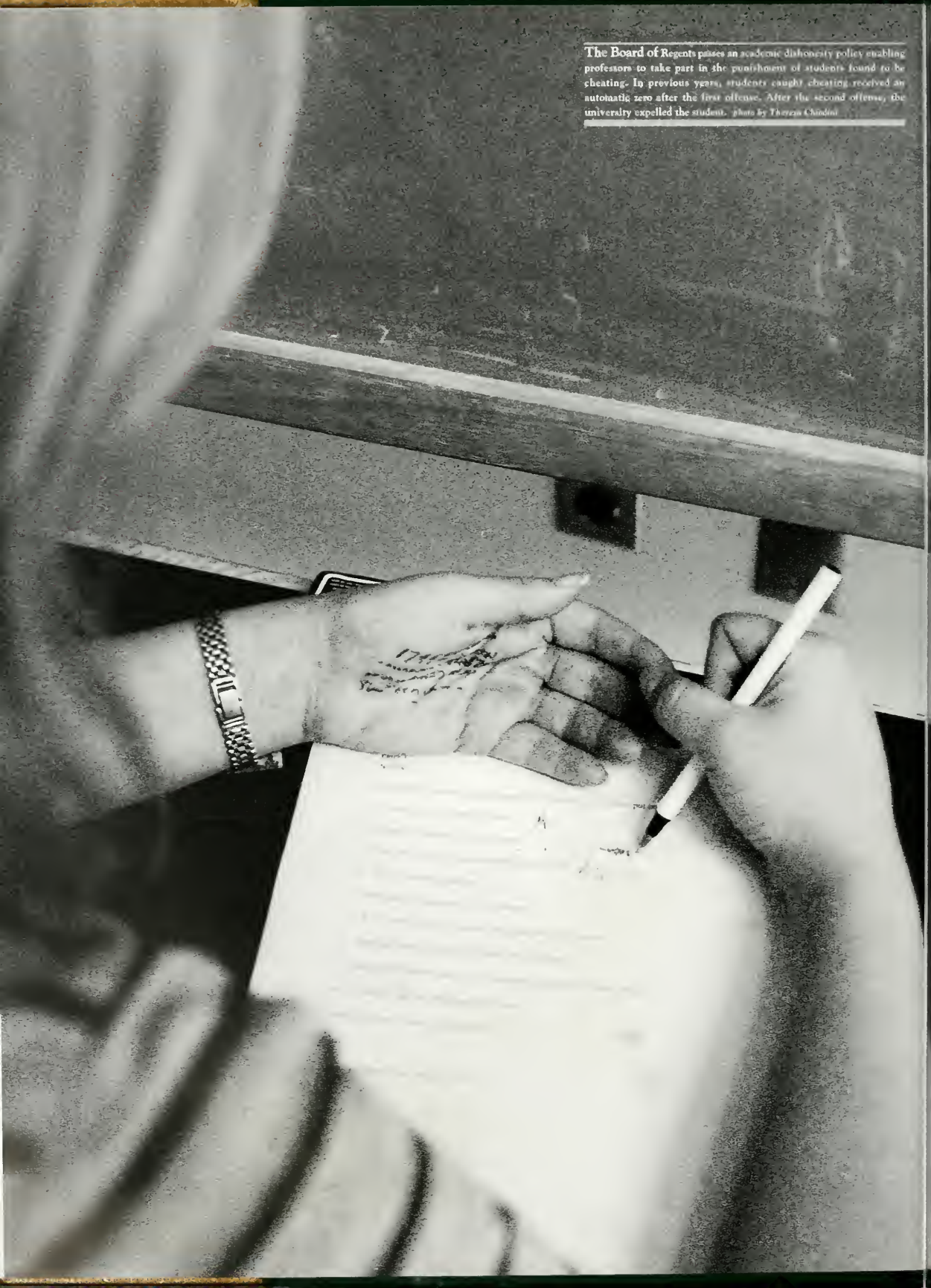
Board Member

Doug Sutton began working in the seventh grade. He worked through high school and had work grants while in college. Sutton's first job after he graduated college offered lessons from a former teacher, his boss, who made the rest of Sutton's jobs beneficial.

His boss told him there were always tasks to be done whether assigned or not, they need done and would "broaden your own horizon." Secondly, his boss said every job came with decision making. Choosing to at least try and solve the problem broadened talent. Lastly, Sutton learned to have a positive attitude and not work for recognition.



The Board of Regents passes an academic dishonesty policy enabling professors to take part in the punishment of students found to be cheating. In previous years, students caught cheating received an automatic zero after the first offense. After the second offense, the university expelled the student. photo by Thoraya Chidiol



Board Eases Strict Policy

Cheating left to faculty discretion

by Kara Swink

Professors received the option to allow initial sanction leeway with students found to be academically dishonest.

After three years of discussion Provost Taylor Barnes presented the Faculty Senate's revised academic dishonesty policy to the Board of Regents in June.

"I'm very excited the board passed it," former Chair of Academic Appeals Carla Edwards said. "It still has some bugs, but this was a policy we checked and rechecked and even talked to other institutions about."

The university attorney reported the inconsistencies within the revised policy, but Edwards said the recension worked. Professors made decisions with their departments as to how a sanction should be carried out and what type of punishment fits a student's crime.

Discussions started with Faculty Senate in November 2002 when Edwards reported the committee's concern regarding the policy to senators. Edwards explained to senators that the appeals committee and the Graduate Council wanted clarification and changes made throughout the policy.

Senate members Chanda Funston and Duane Jewell both disagreed with Edwards about a reworked policy.

"It's been done by Northwest before," Funston said. "I just don't understand what the drive is."

Barnes said the idea only came alive when the Graduate Council looked at their academic policy and tried to align it with the undergraduate policy, because the Graduate Council's policy was weak.

"I guess my perception is that academic dishonesty should be based on academic freedom issues that faculty members operate under," he said.

Jewell said the senate needed to establish guidelines with the catalog, but the guidelines should have flexibility for faculty.

"I guess I don't like to see policy dictated that I have to follow," Jewell said. "I've had cases that were minor and some that were pretty severe and I think I've handled my circumstances in a most appropriate manner."

Since the Board's decision, a charge of academic dishonesty can still be brought against a student by an instructor, staff member or another student. The decision, however, whether a student needs an automatic 'F' for the class or an 'F' on the assignment would be at the professor's discretion.

Before the Board approved the new policy, the instructor automatically gave the student an 'F' in the course if the professor found the student to be academically dishonest.

After appealing the charge, students stayed enrolled in the class until the appeal process was completed.

Faculty Senate debated the idea of a revision for five months before senators agreed on the clarifications.

Former Faculty Senate President Gregory Haddock said throughout the months of debate, most senate members favored adding to and clarifying the outlined policy.

"Over the five months it was debated, we were able to really tweak it," Haddock said. "It now has more steps that faculty can follow, and I really believe that they understand it now."

I guess my perception is that academic dishonesty should be based on academic freedom issues that faculty members operate under.
-Duane Jewell

Life decisions

Guest speaker expresses importance of life choices.

by Kara Swink

Graduates remembered the past and looked toward the future as they felt the swaying tassels tickle their cheeks.

Graduate Heidi Hoffert said she had varied emotions running through her as she walked into the arena wearing a freshly pressed cap and gown.

"It's exciting, nerve wracking and sad," she said. "These emotions have all been mixed together today and truthfully, since I started here."

The emotions continued for Hoffert and countless other graduates as commencement speaker, retired Brigadier General James R. Joy, '57 Northwest graduate, stressed the importance of decision making to graduates.

"Any decision you make will affect the rest of your life," Joy said. "All decisions may not go as planned, so you might have to compromise as you go. You might also learn you hate your career. But the thing I want you to remember is that even the best of plans are changed."

Joy discussed six skills he believed could be used if plans were changed unexpectedly. Joy put great emphasis on honesty and integrity, communication, personable attitudes, competence, not slacking off and daily self-motivation.

"If you use these skills in your daily life, you'll be able to serve your community and be rewarded in the end," Joy said.

As Student Senate President Emily Dix congratulated students, she told graduates it was their university experience that molded them into who they were and who they would become.

"Think back to the hot August day. You were faced with challenges, but today, you've beaten that challenge. It is your time to embark upon a new beginning," Dix said. "Where will you go? What will you do?"

Dix's ending words came from "Hope Floats" character Birdie, a woman who suffered pain but overcame obstacles.

"Beginnings are scary, endings are usually sad, but it is what's in the middle that counts the most."

Dix said graduates would remember their university years fondly as they traveled toward new territory.

As graduates were called forward to receive their diplomas, excitement rang from the stands, and noise erupted from cowbells and drums.

While some parents snapped pictures of their new graduates, other students, such as Michelle Blumer, stood back to take the excitement in.

"Tonight was fabulous, and I'm relieved to be done," she said. "But this has been a great school, and I'm going to miss it here."



**Any decision you make will
affect the rest of your life. All
decisions may not go as planned.
-Brigadier General James R. Joy**



Family and friends squeezed into Bearcat Arena to watch Winter Commencement. More than 300 graduates received diplomas. *photo by Trevor Hayes*

Provost Taylor Barnes congratulates Cindy Pomdexter after she receives her diploma. Provost Barnes has been with the university for 12 years. *photo by Mike Dye*



Sage Kimbaugh and her fellow graduate look at the order of events for the evening. Graduates learned life lessons from commencement speaker Brigadier General James R. Joy. *photo by Trevor Hayes*

2003

TOTAL \$278.50

The screenshot shows the Northwest Online login page. The browser address bar displays <http://www.northwestonline.org/index.real?action=login>. The page header includes navigation icons for Back, Refresh, Home, AutoFill, Print, and Mail. The main content area is titled "Login to Courses" and "Online and eCompanion Courses". A sidebar on the left contains links for WELCOME, ABOUT NORTHWEST, LOGIN, ADMISSIONS, REGISTRATION, COURSE CATALOG, STUDENT SERVICES, and ACADEMIC INFORMATION. Four callout boxes, each labeled "2004", are drawn over the page, showing calculations for tuition and fees. The first three boxes show a total of \$368.50, while the fourth box shows a total of \$251.50.

2004

\$278.50 TUITION
\$90.00 3-HR FEE
TOTAL \$368.50

2004

\$278.50 TUITION
\$90.00 3-HR FEE
TOTAL \$368.50

2004

\$278.50 TUITION
\$90.00 3-HR FEE
TOTAL \$368.50

2004

\$161.50 TUITION
\$ 90.00 3-HR FEE
TOTAL \$251.50

The university announced summer 2003 that Missouri residents online tuition dropped by \$117. While out-of-state tuition remained the same, the university tacked on a \$30 per credit hour delivery fee to both groups. photo illustration by Joni Willingham

A Save in online costs

Tuition drop means savings for Missouri residents.

By Kara Swink

Missouri students taking online courses had more money in their wallets after the Board of Regents approved a tuition rollback that cut online tuition rates for Missouri residents by \$117.

The online rates approved by the Board in less than a month equaled tuition for on-campus, face-to-face delivery. However, the Board added a \$30 per credit hour delivery fee to pay for "distant learning," Director of the Center for Information Technology in Education Roger Von Holzen said.

According to Von Holzen, the university tuition hike caused him to look at online tuition rates, especially after data concluded undergraduate students had doubled since fall 1999.

"Either way you looked at it, it was costing more and more for students," Von Holzen said. "We did it for flexibility and convenience because 80 percent of students take an online course who live on campus."

Undergraduate Missouri residents paid \$161.50 for online courses plus the \$30 fee per credit hour, a \$117 difference prior to the Board's action of \$278.50 per credit hour.

Jean Merrill had taken online courses for the last three years, while raising her 3-year-old daughter but said the cost began to strain family expenses.

"I never liked the idea of paying so much when I only live two blocks away from campus, but I did not want to sit in classes and have to put my daughter into daycare," Merrill said. "But when I found out that tuition went down I was thrilled because any money saved really helps."

Merrill believed the university found a competitive edge they were missing, but said they would not compare until more online courses were added.

"Northwest found out that if they wanted to be competitive that they

needed to charge the same or around that as other schools do," Merrill said. "But they also need to have more courses for people like myself who've met their quota of classes."

Von Holzen said when he submitted his proposal to Provost Taylor Barnes and Vice President of Finance Ray Couter in June, he was not expecting a minimal discussion.

"It was the easiest meeting I've ever had," Von Holzen said.

During the meeting, Von Holzen said Couter believed lowering cost for Missouri residents was a possibility, but it would take close to a year.

"I was at a conference when the Board approved it, and I was surprised that it was finalized in such a short amount of time," he said.

Online courses for non-residents remained at its current charge of \$278.50 through the summer of 2004. However, fall 2004 non-resident students taking an online course would be assessed the additional \$30 delivery fee.

For Patrice Jones, a grandmother from Georgia, online tuition for non-residents continued to satisfy her pocketbook.

Jones researched colleges, universities and private institutions across the country regarding tuition for online courses and learned that the university fit her price range.

"I haven't been disappointed at all with the price or anything that Northwest has to offer," Jones said. "I've been so pleased with Northwest that I'd recommend it to everyone."

Jones said she would pay double the tuition amount if it meant staying out of a classroom and if it kept her away from group projects.

"I've gone to classes before, but I always thought it was a waste of my

time going to class for up to four hours a day and having to rely on other people for my grade," she said. "I figured that if I can do something online, work at my own pace and do it while sitting in my pajamas, I will."

Pricing also changed with graduate level online courses. Missouri resident graduate students began paying \$201.75, while non-resident graduate students paid \$353.50, and both would have the \$30 fee starting in the fall.

Von Holzen said whether an undergraduate or graduate student, they should take at least one online course before graduation because online classes help to "instill life skills in students."

"Online classes teach a student to be a life-long learner, because they participate more in the learning process," Von Holzen said. "They have to do more work and be actively involved."

Either way you look at it, it was costing more and more for students. We did it for flexibility and convenience because 80 percent of students take an online course who live on campus
-Roger Von Holzen

Raised Standards

Faculty adds value in curriculum

By Kara Swink

In an effort to meet state demands, the traditional Freshmen Seminar class underwent transformation.

The state mandated that general education needed value components to impact student decision-making. The modifications forced the university to reconstruct the one-hour credit course.

Freshmen Seminar Director Al Sergel, Philosophy Associate Professor Jim Eiswert and the university's General Education Advisory Group decided Freshmen Seminar would be beneficial to incoming freshmen if values were implemented into the course through online quizzes.

Sergel said University President Dean Hubbard thought of incorporating the Internet with the class so every student could have an online experience.

"I thought we did a good job of taking the resolution given to us and creating a program that meets the needs of the value components," Sergel said.

Freshmen Seminar advisers' opinions differed when it came to the renovated structure. The new component forced Freshmen Seminar Adviser Jody Strauch to expand the criteria of the class, which doubled her students' stress and workload.

Strauch said she realized why the university changed the class but did not understand why online assessments were at a scholarly level.

"I try to help, and I don't know how because I've read the material, but I don't understand it," Strauch said. "This is at such a scholarly depth, and if I don't understand it, why am I teaching it?"

Strauch said values are important, but Freshmen Seminar guides students into the university experience. That guidance changed into a "three hour ethics class that's been put into a one-hour."

"I think we complain and complain, but no one is willing to step up and change it," Strauch said. "We want to change it for the better, and it's not because the faculty doesn't want to work hard."

Freshmen Seminar Adviser Mike Steiner believed the value components were an "excellent edition" to the university's curriculum.

"I don't believe it's overburdened students with work," Steiner said. "I do believe it would have been worth the time to see where else the values could have been implemented in another Gen Ed courses, but it works for now."

Sergel appreciated the comments filtered back and said they would be evaluated throughout the year.

"Would I like to go back to the old way, Oh, yeah," Sergel said. "I

definitely would, but we don't always get what we want."

Sergel said he understood the frustration from students and faculty, but if the online quizzes were created so anyone could walk through them "they wouldn't have much rigor."

"I'm not ready to throw the whole cotton pickin' bathtub out the window just because there are little things that need tweaking," Sergel said.

Nevertheless, students became frustrated because only an 85 percent or higher passed the five value quizzes. Administrators created an automatic 24-hour reset program after thousands of reset request were submitted. If students failed even one quiz, spring registration could not be completed.

Freshman Denise Rose enjoyed the seminar experience. She learned valuable university techniques but thought the quizzes were "pointless."

"We come here with our own values," Rose said. "And we don't need to learn what values are through an online quiz."

After hearing both sides of the argument from faculty and students, the Faculty Welfare Committee drafted a proposal to the Curriculum Committee.

"There are just a lot of problems because everything keeps getting dumped on Freshmen Seminar," said Faculty Welfare Committee Chair Joel Benson. "We think this whole process needs to be re-thought. It's only a suggestion with some of our concerns."

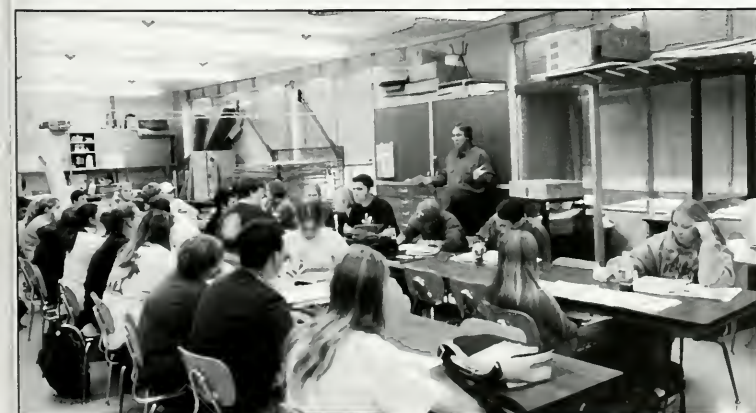
Eiswert believed the committee would re-evaluate students and faculty comments regarding the class.

"It's been a great addition whether it lasts or not," Eiswert said. "I don't know if it will last, only the future will tell."

I try to help and I don't know how because I've read the material, but I don't understand it. This is at such a scholarly depth, and if I don't understand it, why am I teaching it?
-Jody Strauch



Freshmen Melanie Bucy and Kathryn Chamberlain collaborate on the quizzes required for Freshmen Seminar. In order to register for spring classes, students had to score at last an 85 percent on each quiz. *photo by Theresa Chaudin*



Students in Kim Spradling's Freshman Seminar class review paperwork handed to them to prepare for next trimester's schedule. Originally the course was designed the class to help freshmen become acquainted with college life. *photo by Mike Dye*

Works of harmony

Hard work and dedication pays off for theater production

By Megan Heuer

Marching in a soldier like stance, four young men came to an abrupt stop as the piano shifted moods and the choir of perfect harmonies sang anthem to another entering body.

Rehearsal for the Spring Musical "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" filled the evening hours for 22 university students. In the form of a roman comedy, the production would take the stage in March.

With only two weeks of preparation on the stage of Mary Linn, Director Mike Morris said most people didn't know how much work went into theater productions, especially musicals.

Preparation for the musical began a year before, and three months of practice prepared the actors. Rehearsing in an area smaller than the size of the actual performance stage made it difficult for actors to reach full potential. Other obstacles stood in the way as the team pressed on.

"Theater is definitely a team effort, so when you come into rehearsal and you're not prepared, you don't have you're lines down, you don't have your blocking memorized or your songs, it's really not fair to anybody

else in the cast," actor Patrick Robins said. "It's a big obligation to being a student and to uphold excellence."

Robbins said rehearsal Monday through Friday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. wasn't enough to make a good show. The musical had several tight, voice harmonies so when everyone practiced during their own time they came prepared.

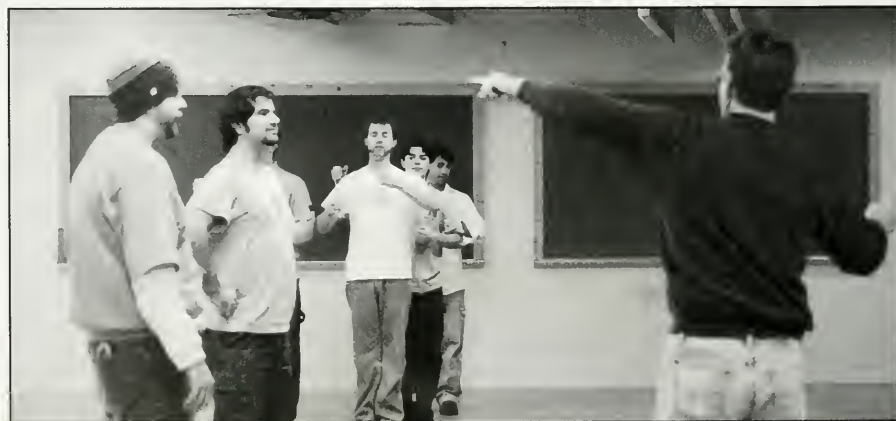
Accompanist Lisa Lawrence also stayed on her fingertips during rehearsals. Some nights, Lawrence sat for long periods of time before she was needed; on others, her fingers danced nonstop across the piano keys.

Smoothering the wrinkles, stage manager Bridget Brown said she came to practice early to get production sights ready and gather props everyone might need.

"I'm pretty much the liaison between the director and all the cast members, the music, the crews that run the show backstage," Brown said.

The production required teamwork from all different directions, which meant everyone had to adjust.

"It's like a jigsaw puzzle," Morris said. "You gotta' work on the pieces and put them together as you figure them out, and eventually it kind of collages into something that makes sense."



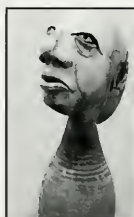
Music Director Dr. Brian Lanier cues singers at the precise moment. Rehearsals were held in the old dance studio in the DeLuce Fine Arts building from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. photo by Mike Dye

Performers Michael Fadden and Stacy Schumacher talk edgewise about their parts. The performers weren't able to rehearse on stage until two weeks before their performance in March. *Photo by Mike Dy*



The final presentation

Students view professor's cumulative years of experience.



This stoneware head was hand built and then wheel spun. It was modeled, drawn and painted in 1968 and could be found in the art exhibit in the DeLuce Fine Arts Building. photo by Mike Dye

By Brent Burkland

Clustered red and stone earthenware ceramics, coffee pots and art books scattering a basement office would soon be packed.

Assistant Professor of Art Russell Schmaljohn, who joined the university staff in the summer of 1969, decided to retire and show the public his artwork after a 35-year career directing the ceramics program.

In retrospect, Schmaljohn noticed many changes in the level of technology and work required for professors.

"When I first came here, we were lucky to have a radio," Schmaljohn said. He saw technology advance into students owning personal CD and MP3 players.

According to Schmaljohn, the amount of administrative paperwork gradually increased. There were more student reports, meetings and committees and the level of attention directed to the students waned.

Although the student population increased, attitudes and opinions changed little throughout his career.

"Same old shit; the flies are different," Schmaljohn said.

Schmaljohn enjoyed students' willingness to learn and their sense of open-mindedness. Creating an open environment for students helped increase communication in the art department.

"I can talk about art and ideas and about books that I read. Some people may call that an ivory tower because it doesn't deal with what's in their concrete world," Schmaljohn said.

To best express his visual ideas to the public, Schmaljohn decided to put on a final ceramic exhibition.

"The best way to learn something is to teach something," Schmaljohn said. "Teaching has always been self-enhancing. Even though I teach the same thing over and over again, there's always something to learn."

Bobby Estes believed Schmaljohn was a laid-back professor but said he still gave him the motivation to do his best work.

"I feel like he has set a higher standard for students," said peer adviser Ashley Grant. "(Schmaljohn) is intimidating, and he makes students want to work for him."

Schmaljohn established a goal to prepare students for art-related jobs after college.

Art department chair Kim Spradling said, "(Schmaljohn) had a way of focusing on what's important which in a sense is the mission of the department; to focus on what's best for the students."

Schmaljohn said teaching ceramics became a learning experience. He said self-fulfillment came in ceramics education.

"I'm trading my 'ivory tower' here for the one at home," said Schmaljohn.

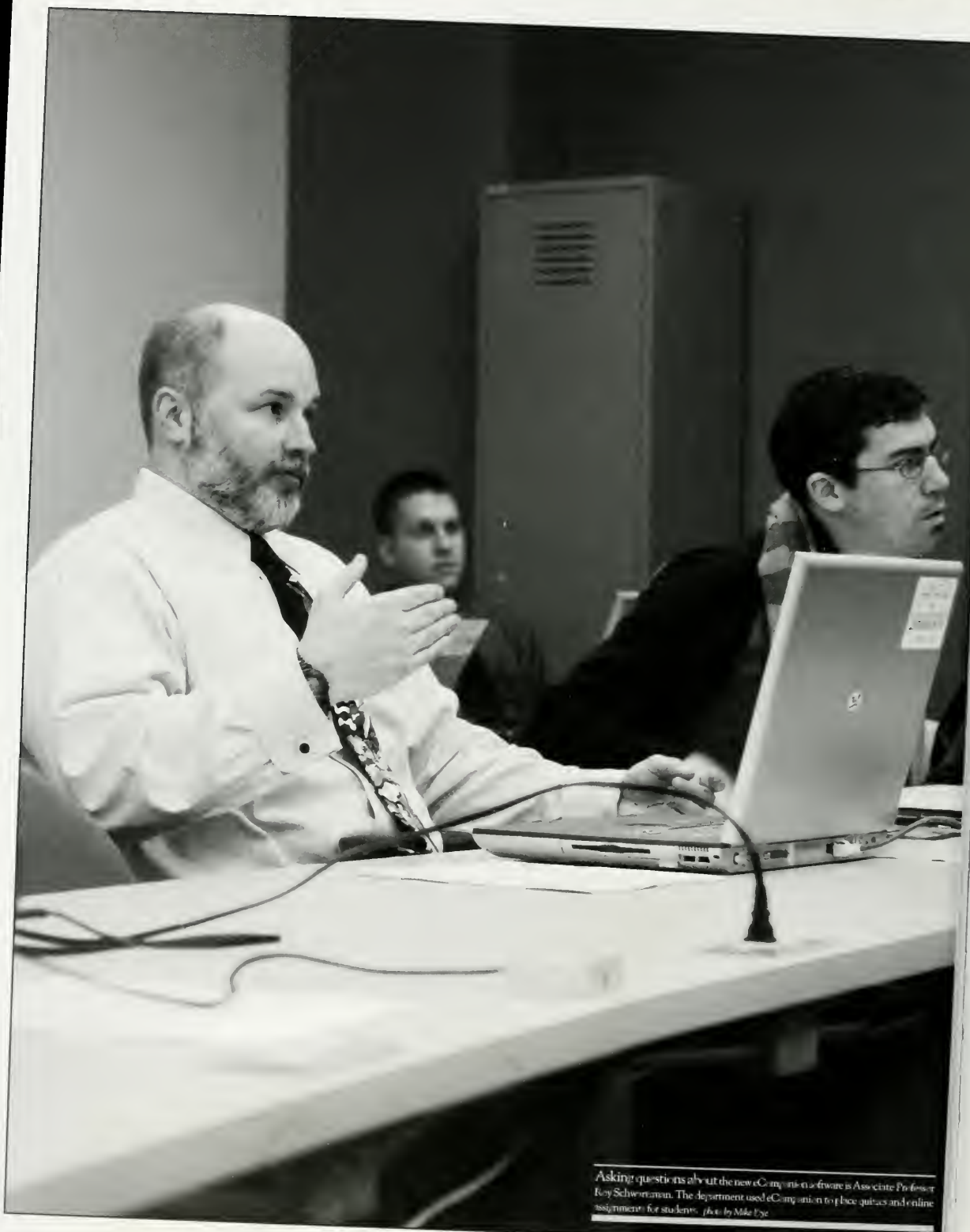
"I'm ready to graduate and become a potter now."



On display in the Fine Arts building are ceramic pieces which produced in the 1980's. A Camera cup, Rattler cup, Bird cup and a Potter's cup were all made on a Potter's Wheel by Russell Schmaljohn. photo by Mike Dye

Russell Schmaljohn discusses a few pieces of art he designed to Alysia Grummett and Bonnie Bisbee in the Fine Arts Building. Schmaljohn taught ceramics at the university for 35 years and retired in May. photo by Mike Dye





Asking questions about the new eCompany software is Associate Professor Roy Schwerman. The department used eCompany to place quizzes and online assignments for students. (Photo by Mike L'ye)

Virtual instruction

**New program better
accommodates teaching process.**

By Megan Heuer

Laptop screens lit up as faculty watched the overhead projector display the eCompanion homepage.

The Department of Communication, Theatre, and Language Arts learned about updates to the eCompanion gradebook feature at the beginning of the spring trimester.

The Internet based program created by eCollege allowed instructors to post assignments, lectures, quizzes, tests and other course materials for students to view and utilize from any computer with Internet access.

Department members used the training as an opportunity to ask questions and give suggestions on how to improve the site's capabilities.

Associate Professor of Communication, Theatre, and Languages Arts Roy Schwartzman oversaw the Oral Communication homepage design and content. Schwartzman said the Sloan Foundation Grant required instructional technology in the department therefore, one-third of his courses took place through eCompanion.

"ECompanion is a tool like anything else, and it's there primarily for the convenience and the assistance of the students," Schwartzman said.

Schwartzman said eCompanion was beneficial because if a student forgot an assignment at school, they could retrieve it from a home computer.

ECompanion lectures were played through the Tegrity program. The Center for Information Technology in Education office set up a special room for professors to record their lectures.

Assistant Director of the CITE Office Darla Runyan told professors at the training eCollege appreciated suggestions from campus faculty and staff on ways to improve eCompanion and make it more user friendly.

CITE worked with faculty to train professors on the new features eCollege introduced.

Instructor of Communication, Theatre, and Language Arts Marcy Roush learned to use eCompanion from Runyan. After an informal, individual training session, Roush created her own system of interacting with students in her hands-on signing class.

Roush hoped to get something similar to a video camera that would allow her to interact with each of the students through eCompanion.

Technology changes continued to affect university departments, and professors looked at the positive affect it brought to campus.

"With a lot of students in the classroom, sometimes it's hard to see, so if they get to see me one-on-one, especially if they're sitting at the computer, it makes it more personable," Roush said. "That way we can interact a little more."

eCompanion is a tool like
anything else, and it's there
primarily for the convenience
and the assistance of the
students.

-Roy Schwartzman

Future team shows potential

**Classmates compete
in public speaking contests.**

by Megan Heuer

Traveling to six different states, forensic students learned how to apply constructive criticism, strengthen public speaking skills and grow together as a team.

Open to all students interested in public speaking at a competitive level, Instructor of Communication, Theatre, and Languages Patrick Johnson said forensics taught students how to improve their confidence and interpersonal skills through competition.

Students had the option to compete in several different categories under two genres, public address and prepared speeches.

Public address was judged on content, reasoning, evidence and delivery of a chosen topic. Prepared speeches worked on creating a strong character and adapting to judges' feedback. The 10-minute prepared speeches gave students a lengthy amount of memorization from the start.

Johnson said besides memorization, the most difficult part of getting into forensics was the stylistics of language choice, body movement and vocal inflections.

To practice all the intricacies of speaking, 20 students spent three to four hours outside of class practicing, so time in class could be spent reflecting on the previous weekend's tournament.

"When a judge offers constructive criticism, I try to apply it to my understanding of the piece and fix the problem," Fifth year member Stephanie Purtle said. "If every judge gave great criticism, it would be wonderful. But some judges just write, 'Great job!' and then you get last place. That isn't always very helpful."

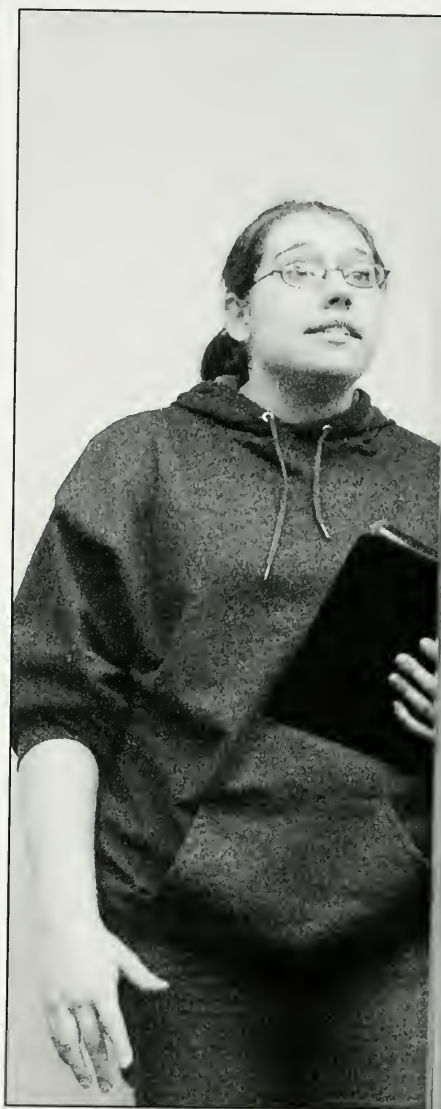
Students not only appreciated and utilized the judges' comments but enjoyed time spent as a team. Traveling to "shady hotels," and sharing odd experiences was fun Purtle said.

"I have made some of the best friendships," she said. "There is something that happens when you are driving for hours on the weekends together and then sleeping in the same hotel room and eating together every meal. These are friendships that will last forever."

Students gave up weekends for tournaments and weeknights for practices. However, they appreciated what the class offered them in return.

Students gained skills to use in the future from forensics such as using social skills, presenting topics with time constraints and networking.

Johnson said the young team exceeded the final round placings the previous season's team set. A squad of mostly freshmen and sophomores qualified four, first-time national qualifiers for the national competition.



If every judge gave great criticism, it would be wonderful. But some judges just write 'Great Job!' and then you get last place. That isn't always very helpful.

-Stephanie Purtle




Stephanie Purtle and Michael Lager are put on the spot to perform an act for class feedback. "I'm in forensics because it can give me lifelong communication skills," Lager said. *photo by Mike Dye*



Stephanie Purtle gives a presentation on the topic of shopping. "I love to be in forensics because I love to be the center of attention," Purtle said. *photo by Mike Dye*



Freshman Ashlee James uses specialized equipment to milk at the R.T. Wright Farm. Agriculture students were required to milk cows twice a day to prevent damage to the cows. *photo by Mike Dye*



'Udder' Experiences

Agriculture students learn through alternative teaching methods.

by Megan Heuer

As he reached his arm through the porthole, student David Gomel felt the cow's bumpy, wet stomach through his glove.

The T.W. Wright Farm offered students a place to execute what they learned in class by observation and interaction. Classes such as applied nutrition, livestock marketing, animal breeding and physiology of animals incorporated textbooks with physical learning.

"The only experience you have is what you do in class," Gomel said. "So, it's nice to go to the farm and do what you talked about."

Tracie Bixinmen, an animal science major, said taking classes such as applied nutrition taught her how to ration her livestock's food intake to save money on feed and produce the best meat product by feeding the correct nutrition.

Associate Professor of Agriculture Harold Brown concentrated his time teaching about the 75 sows and their 700 offspring that lived on the farm. Brown assigned two students to a litter of piglets, and students learned to dock their tails, clip their teeth, give ear notches for identification, castrate them and give iron shots. Students learned the importance of the tasks kept the animals in the best condition for production.

"The main thing is that it allows you to apply what you talk about in the classroom and use it in a practical situation," Brown said.

Professor of Agriculture Dennis Padgitt worked closely with the 70 cows on the farm also giving his students something to remember. The hands on approach offered an advantage over other college graduates.

"We want to train students to go out in the real world and compete with other students or graduates," Padgitt said.

Tyler Rolofson learned the benefits of artificial insemination. It eliminated the chore of taking care of high maintenance bulls on the farm. Other benefits were that a good gene could be used in several cows to ensure a good bloodline in the calves. Students went through-out the entire artificial insemination process of preparing the cow and inserting the semen tube but didn't actually insert the semen.

Rolofson enjoyed his experiences and said he liked the classes with animal interaction best.

"I think it's better to get field experience to learn," Rolofson said. "Teachers can write all they want on a board, but until you get to do it, you don't learn."

The main thing is that it allows you to apply what you talk about in the classroom and use it in practical situations.

-Harold Brown

Leadership outreach

**Business classes spread education
to eager entrepreneurs.**

by Jessica Hartley

University business majors used classroom knowledge to spread business education to others eager to learn the ropes.

Groups of students that participated in entrepreneurship teamed up with local aspiring business persons, wrote a business plan and evaluated the idea's marketability.

Assistant Professor of Accounting, Economics and Finance Jason White taught several business-related classes.

"I like my Entrepreneurship class best because we get an opportunity to cover material from every business discipline," White said. "The course could easily serve as the capstone course for a degree in business."

White said he was interested in getting Students In Free Enterprise organization as a credited business course similar to other universities and colleges. SIFE's mission was to give students the ability to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation.

SIFE brought in speakers and provided informational programs for students interested in business. With the projects, student's business

experience broadened. They teamed up with Delta Mu Delta to travel around to local schools and participate in Junior Achievement programs with high school students.

"SIFE provides college students the opportunity to learn leadership and team building," Jill Awtry said. "It's a good connection builder. It gets your foot in the door with over 50 companies."

Other university professors used different approaches to make business classes more interesting.

Instructor of Accounting, Economics and Finance Doug Russell's method of teaching Sales, Retailing and Principles of Marketing courses was a mix of lectures and stories.

"I relate stories of my work experience to the textbook," Russell said, "which creates an open environment that promotes learning by having some fun."

In Fundamentals of Business Finance, students got involved during Freshmen Advantage Week. The business students organized a personal budget seminar for incoming freshmen to teach them how to manage money.

Some students were provided the opportunity to attend an annual competition to present a year's worth of hard work to business professionals. The competition was the main focus throughout the year.

"Our projects during the academic year are driven by our mission of spreading entrepreneurship education to the northwest Missouri area. Competition is a different animal. Our goal there is to win," White said.

At competition, the students were judged by their projects, how they utilized the mass media through their personal Web site and posters, their involvement of nonbusiness majors and their use of a business advisory board. They were also judged on their overall timed presentation and written report in New York City.

Njavwa Mulwanda said SIFE and business went hand-in-hand in the process of spreading business to all of humankind.

"SIFE enriches communication about business," Mulwanda said. "It enlightens and educates people about business."



Sarah Baird works with Cole Shelby at the Horace Mann After School Program. Students in Free Enterprise members want to educate young students on how to manage a business. photo by Mike Dye



Freshman Laura Fowl
Mann student Jocelyn G.
required reading



Backrow reflections

Education majors observe students for future teaching skills.

by Jessica Hartley

Children scribbled away at their assignments, while education majors sat quietly in the back of the room jotting down notes over the teacher-child interactions. Elementary students in Horace Mann Laboratory School welcomed elementary education majors and early childhood minors who were required to work directly in the classrooms. Education students spent three hours a week for five weeks sitting in on classes and observing.

"They were up-and-coming teachers with fresh ideas, so I learned as much from them as they did watching me teach," pre-kindergarten teacher Meghan Sheil said.

Many universities didn't provide the observation and activity course to prospective educators until their Junior year. The observance opportunity allowed them to confirm their future.

"The beauty of this class is students have the opportunity to observe students during their first trimester on campus," course instructor Carol Tjeerdsma said.

Horace Mann was a private elementary school located on the university campus. Tjeerdsma said the elementary students were "desensitized" to the variety of observers that came into the classrooms.

"It helped me because I'm getting hands-on experience, and it will help teach me my full responsibility of what teaching entails," special education major Leslie Griswold said.

Being able to work directly on campus allowed students to explore the idea of where they wanted their future to go.

"It gives them a feel, right off the start, of working as an educator," Sheil said. "If it's the wrong career choice, students know early."

Student observers looked for specific examples; discipline techniques, the learning environment, problems the teacher had, methods of teaching and planning and how the teacher motivated the students.

With the information students collected, they wrote "Growth Pieces" to reflect on what they observed. Students critiqued one hour of their observation by questioning their classroom experience. In addition to observation, education majors and minors also had hands-on training by grading papers and decorating bulletin boards.

"It gives us a chance to get in the classroom with kids and gives us the option to change our major if we decide it's not what we want to do," elementary education major Dion Pickett said. "You just really get a feel for the classroom."

During Linda Heeler's six-grade class, April Protzman and Sagan Hicks work together searching for information on the Internet. Six-graders were given personal computers five years ago at Horace Mann. photo by Nicole Richards



Third-grade teacher Amy Vanderbruegge oversees Trevton Burch, Rachel Mullins and Tyler Kenkel working with their Palm Pilots. Each third-grader had their own personal palm pilot they used each day in class to keep assignments. photo by Nicole Richards



Technology

pilots learning

Electronic-based education prepares students for the future

By Jessica Hartley

With No. 2 pencils and Big Chief tablets tucked inside desks, Horace Mann third-grade students pulled out their palm pilots and began their day.

Horace Mann Laboratory School provided personal computer's for sixth-graders five years ago and third-graders received Palm Pilots fall 2003.

"The state wants the students to have mastery of technology by the end of eighth grade, so we are starting now," third-grade teacher Amy Vorderbruegge said.

Sixth grade instructor Linda Heeler said it was the school's goal to integrate technology so future teachers would see the benefit and write grants to bring further advancement into public schools.

The students at Horace Mann said having personal computers and palm pilots had a lot of benefits.

"We don't have to take turns. When it's here we can just get on it when we need to," sixth-grader Zachary Keith said.

Having a computer at the student's fingertips allowed them to replace the use of some textbooks, dictionaries and other resources.

"Instead of looking up our spelling words in a dictionary, which takes forever, we just used www.dictionary.com," sixth-grader Mary Baumli said.

Computers allowed creativity to flow while expanding resources and improving keyboarding skills.

"I like how you can personalize your computer's background to show different personalities," sixth-grader Hailey Kenkel said. Kenkel added, the computers were too tempting sometimes because she wanted to play games during class.

Vorderbruegge said the Palm Pilots were used to motivate students to do school work while using technology.

"The Palm Pilots provided a game-type atmosphere where they were still learning, but the kids didn't see them as a learning tool," Vorderbruegge said.

Palm Pilots came equipped with an agenda, calendar, games, type mode and an ability to "beam" data from one Palm Pilot to another.

"By the time we're adults people will be using computers a lot more. When we're adults, Palms will be a paper and pencil," third-grader Michael Spencer said. "Palms rock!"

The Palm Pilots provided a game-type atmosphere where they were still learning, but the kids didn't see them as a learning tool.

-Amy Vorderbruegge

Gourmet Training

Foods and nutrition classes prepare meals to gain experience.

by Megan Heuer

A dish of mashed potatoes, cauliflower and baked chicken would not be acceptable in food management courses where students mimicked restaurant ideals of appealing, colorful entrées.

Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences Jennell Ciak taught meal management courses which prepared students by teaching them to prepare three-course meals for an actual audience.

Smaller meals, feeding four to five, were hosted by two classmates while larger dinners, feeding up to 60 guests, were prepared by five committees working together.

Jill Stiens, a dietetics major, said preparing a meal for a large number of people came with stress and a level of difficulty. Modifying recipes to provide for such a large group was sometimes difficult and finding the facilities, stoves and mixing bowls wasn't always the easiest task.

"Since the foods and nutrition majors are small, we all know each other very well," Grace Johnson said. "Word spreads about who can bake well and who will usually burn down the kitchen. From then on, work is divided as fairly as possible, and everyone pulls their weight."

Johnson, another dietetics major, said she wanted to eventually enter the Peace Corps where she could use her knowledge of nutrition to help malnourished people around the world. She found the biggest stress in preparing such a large meal was the time management, but dove tailing, or multitasking, was something she learned in class to quicken the pace.

Other foods classes concentrated on the importance of planning menus that met daily nutritional goals and balancing aesthetics that were pleasing to the eye.

"Since this is the Midwest, it is important to keep things a little more traditional," Johnson said. "Side dishes are chosen without repeating colors or key ingredients. Texture also needs to balance so there is not too much crunch or mush."

Stiens said planning a meal required delegating, which brought it all together faster and smoother.

"It's great being able to work with others as a team because each person can add something to the end product," she said. "You also have an extra eye to catch something that may need changed or tweaked."

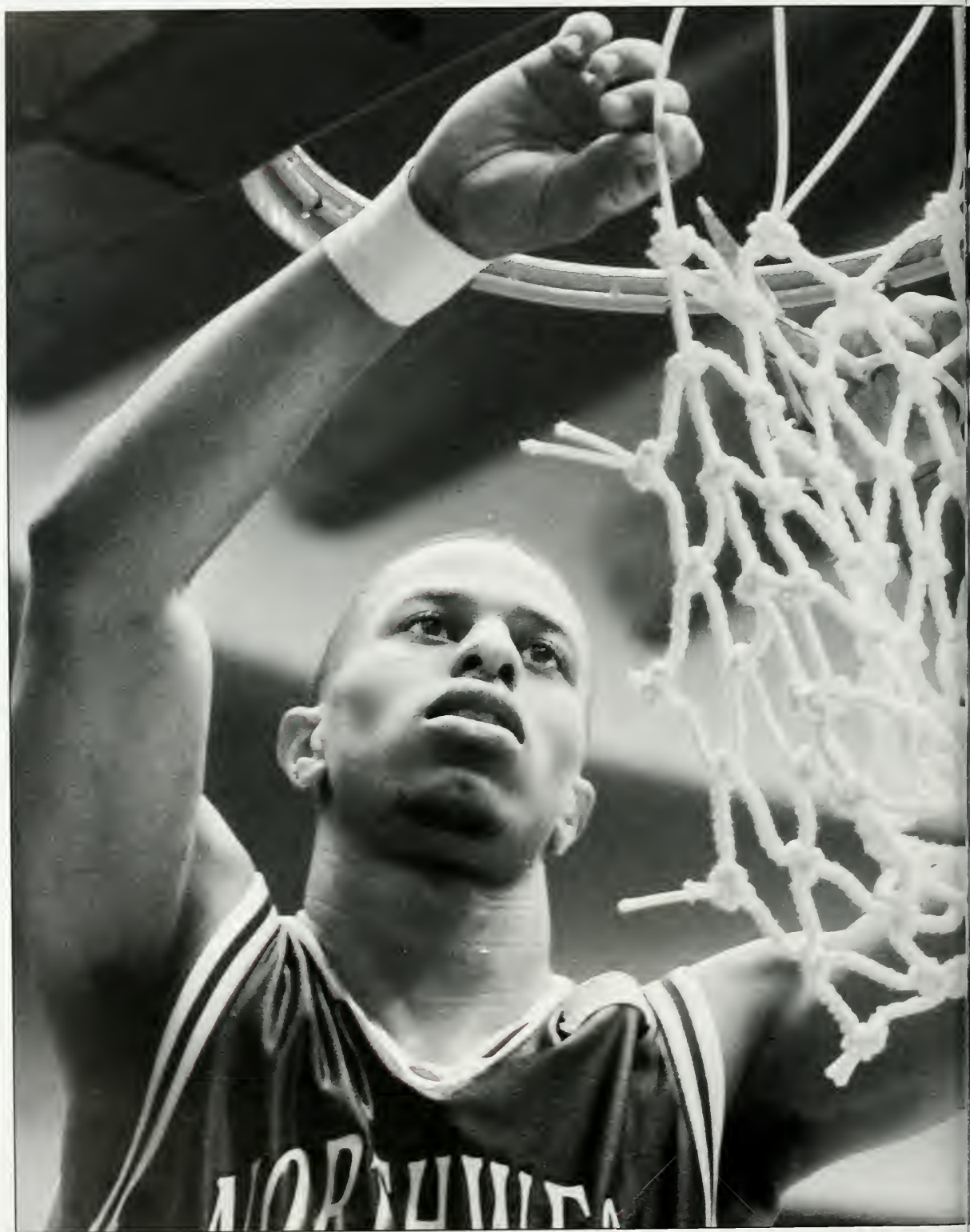


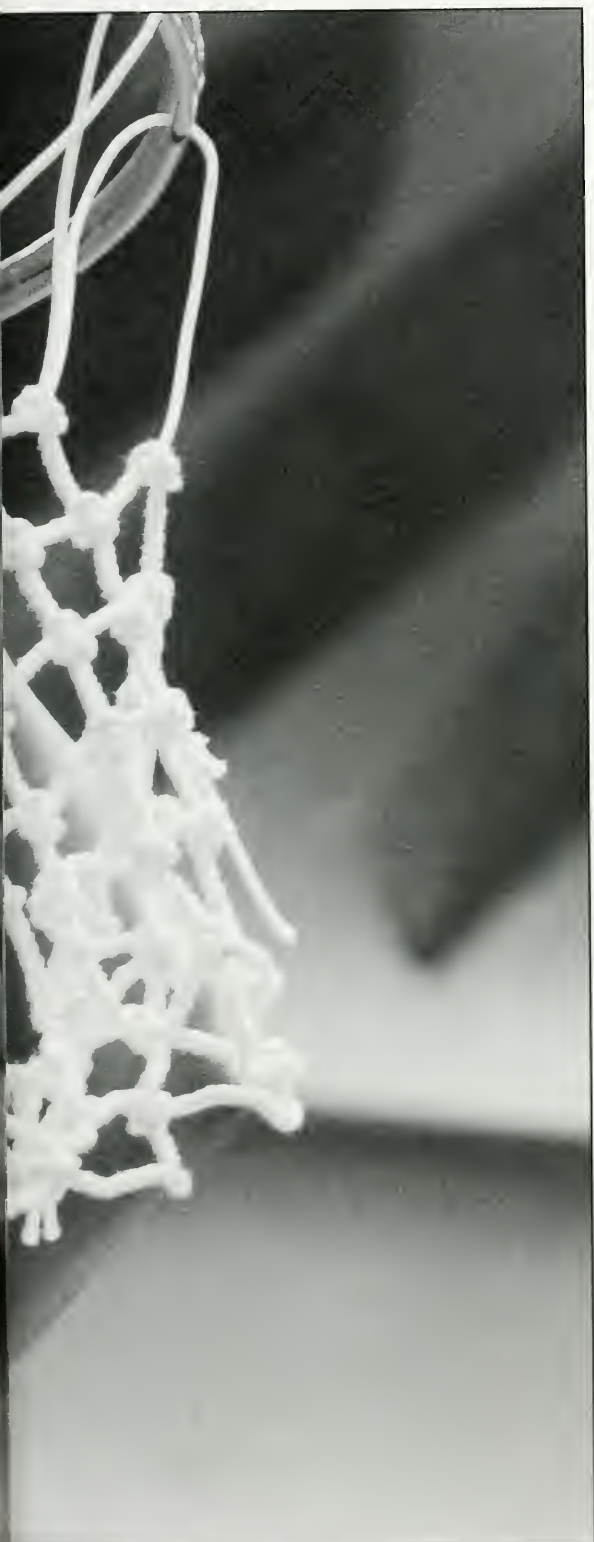


Through watery eyes, Kristie Stueby and Ashley Roberts garnish an onion. The garnishes the women prepared added color and appeal to various entrees. *photo by Mike Dye*



While creating garnishes Shenna Laneer slices an apple for a dish she's preparing. Laneer's goal was to work in a gym as a sports nutritionist. *photo by Mike Dye*





Backed by a tradition of success, Bearcat determination shined through rebuilding status, conference championships and national rankings.

Determination

Bearcat basketball dominated the MIAA in March bringing home two championship titles. The men grabbed their second title in three years while the women attained their first.

The football team also held the MIAA Championship title in a five-way tie, despite beginning the season with a No. 4 national ranking. Head Football Coach Mel Tjeerdsma was honored during homecoming pregame festivities after becoming the winningest football coach in university history with 91 wins after beating Washburn Oct. 4. Tjeerdsma named Bart Tatum offensive coordinator after Jim Svoboda announced his departure for Division I action at the University of California-Los Angeles.

Both men's and women's indoor track and field qualified three team members for the NCAA Division II Championships in Boston, Mass.

Success

After three losing seasons, the volleyball team welcomed new head coach Lori DeJongh-Slight. The soccer team went under new guidance with new Head Coach Tracy Cross. Despite going into overtime seven times, the soccer team broke the MIAA record for the longest winless streak with 16.

Senior Guard Kelvin Parker cuts down the net following the men's victory in the title game of the MIAA tournament. Parker was named the MVP of the tournament. *photo by Cole Young*

Family support

Bearcat brothers and sisters work hard, play hard.

by trevor hayes

Teammates bonded through emotional trials and time spent together. For some, those bonds dated back to tough love earned by siblings playing backyard ball.

After years of playing together in high school and in college, wide receivers Andre and Jamaica Rector counted on each other.

"I feel more confident," Andre said. "I've been playing with him so many years, I know if I have a bad game, he's going to pick up the slack."

According to Jamaica, years playing and growing together helped the Rectors stand up to opponents.

"When we were young, we used to fight a lot, but now we don't fight anymore," Jamaica said. "Now we just fight the other team."

Like the Rectors, Tonja and Tara Risetter were professional on the softball diamond.

"We don't fight on the field," Tara said. "That's the only place that we don't fight."

The Risetter twins had been inseparable. They shared clothing, their apartment and car.

"We're together all the time," Tonja said. "We're with each other 24/7. We live with each other, we practice together; there's really no getting away from her, which is rough sometimes."

Even though they could not break from each other often, with Tara at third base and Tonja at shortstop, they formed a strong defense playing for the 'Cats softball team.

"Together we're a wall, and having that mentality, I think, helps our team," Tara said. "It's kind of neat to be playing side-by-side with my twin sister."

For the twins, playing in close proximity from an early age helped form their solid defense.

"We just know each other's tendencies," Tonja said. "We know what each other can do, as far as getting to balls."

Knowing the other's ability spurred them to critique each other. Despite a good play, the other sister could still point out shortcomings, with which they may not approach another teammate.

"I think we are our biggest critics," Tonja said. "We critique each other so much. We're hard on each other."

When Tonja sat out their freshmen year after back surgery, the sisters put their fighting aside. Tara said it was hard for her to watch her sister struggle through rehabilitation.

Because Tonja couldn't play, Tara worried she rubbed in playing every time she brought up softball.

"She's my sister. She's my best friend and I don't want to hurt her," Tara said. "We're very mean to each other, but we know we love each other."

Football players Richard and Raymond Fonoti, from Honolulu, Hawaii, felt the same way about their families.

"Family is very important, considering we don't have any on the mainland," Richard said. "You just always have got somebody to watch your back, who you really trust."

That trust extended into the families they started. Richard had a daughter, and Raymond had a son and a daughter.

"It's a big help having family around, just being there for each other," Richard said, explaining the importance of family.

The Fonotis played on opposite sides of the ball, with Richard at linebacker and Raymond at offensive guard. Watching their family play on the same field helped the Fonotis fire each other up.

"Whenever I see him, I just feel like running out there," Richard said. "I get real excited on the sideline."

Family teammates backed their excitement and passion for the present with memories and emotions of the past.

"I get excited because that's your family member out there making a play," Raymond said. "That's your blood."



Raymond Fonoti (left) with son in front and Richard Fonoti (right) with daughter in back take time after the game to visit with their children. The Bearcats beat Washburn 45-14 Oct. 15. photo by Trevor Hayes



Brothers, Andre Rector No. 5 critiques Jamaica Rector No. 6 on his play during the Washburn game. Jamaica Rector received five catches for a total of 81 yards with one touchdown, while Andre sat out with a shoulder injury. *photo by Trevor Hayes*



Tara Risetter spots her twin sister Tonja in the varsity weight room. Tonja received a medical red-shirt after a back injury and had one year of eligibility left after Tara graduated. *photo by Trevor Hayes*

“

You just always have got
somebody to watch your back,
who you really trust.

-Richard Fonoti

”

Caught by the tail

Inside the suit of Bobby Bearcat

by trevor hayes

The world inside the suit was completely different. Outside a cool fall wind blew; inside the temperature rose. Fans pulled their jackets tighter. Bobby fought to see through his sweat.

"It's extremely hot," the man inside the Bearcat suit said.

On top of dealing with intense temperatures and sweat, Bobby could barely see out of the awkward mask.

"It's kind of hard to see out of until you figure out your dimensions," he said. "Once you figure it out, you can kind of sense where things are after that. You kind of tell if things are coming at you, and you know what to look for or where to look."

The hardships inside the suit continued past running into poles and sweating profusely. During a rainy Minnesota-Mankato State game, Bobby's suit became waterlogged. The extra weight of the suit made it difficult for him to move. Eventually, his feet and calf muscles cramped up. Late in the fourth quarter, he jumped down to the track from the grandstands and suffered a mild sprain on the top of his foot and fractured a rib.

"Don't ask me how I did that," he said. "I came back from that game with bruises all over."

Despite all of the trials inside the suit, Bobby loved being the university mascot.

"It's probably one of the best things I've ever done, just for the fact that I get to be a major part of the community. I get to go meet a lot of people, even though they may not know it's me."

Being unknown and interacting with people made Bobby's job interesting.

"I get to play with all the little kids and all the kids love me," he said. "But if I walk into Hy-Vee and I see a bunch of little kids, like they won't realize it's me, but I'll always remember them."

Bobby enjoyed his interaction with the children and he loved to make their day. He didn't care where they were from or what school they supported.

"We played Mo. West last year down there in basketball," Bobby said. "Their mascot didn't even show up, and so there's a bunch of their kids coming over hugging me and taking pictures, which I thought that was awesome. It's not like I'm just going to blow little kids off."

Although he took time for the kids, he lived for pumping up the crowd. He thrived on the energy from the crowd, and they fed off his.

Bobby made friends with almost everyone he met, but some of his friendships became closer.

"Grant (Venable), Super Fan, he's a lot of fun, because he and I are good friends. We kind of feed off one another, we even came up with our own little handshake."

Fans like Venable and other Bearcat diehards gave Bobby exactly what he needed. Their enthusiasm allowed Bobby to step it up another level. He achieved an even higher level at the first Clash of the Champions game in 2002.

"That Pitt. State game was just unreal last year. It's a little different than being at home. I knew it was a home game, but our average is like six or seven thousand

people. But at that game, we had almost 27,000 there, so it was just completely nuts."

The attendance for the game and the larger venue made Bobby's head spin.

"The whole fact that I'm cheering, Bobbying, in front of 26-and-a-half thousand people made it just that much more crazy," he said.

While he enjoyed Clash of the Champions, Bobby said his favorite experience came during the 2003 Homecoming parade. He rode a fire truck through the parade and then walked back to Rickenbrode Stadium.

"It took me almost an hour, hour-and-a-half to walk back, because it was just non-stop taking pictures, having people talk to me. Just walking around, it was a lot of fun. It was just the most fun I've ever had."

Even though he was tired, he still had to make an appearance at the Sprint Tailgate Zone and work the game after the parade.

"A lot of people probably

noticed that I would kind of take a knee after a while and just chill out, where as I am usually up and running around."

Earlier in the season, Bobby experienced a different exhaustion than he did during Homecoming. The game against Missouri-Rolla, he did over 360 push-ups after the team scored with a touchdown, safety and another touchdown to rack up their total to 60 points.

"I did like 150 all within like five game minutes," he said. "The last 10, my arms gave out, and I could hardly do them. I thought I was ready for it, I'd trained all summer, and I was glad I did, because I was just obliterated."

Along with the celebration push-ups, Bobby generations passed down the Bearcat's distinct walk.

"His walk if you notice kind of has a cocky flare to it, but it's just confident," he said. "It took me a little while to learn it. It's kind of a confident walk, but it's a strut."

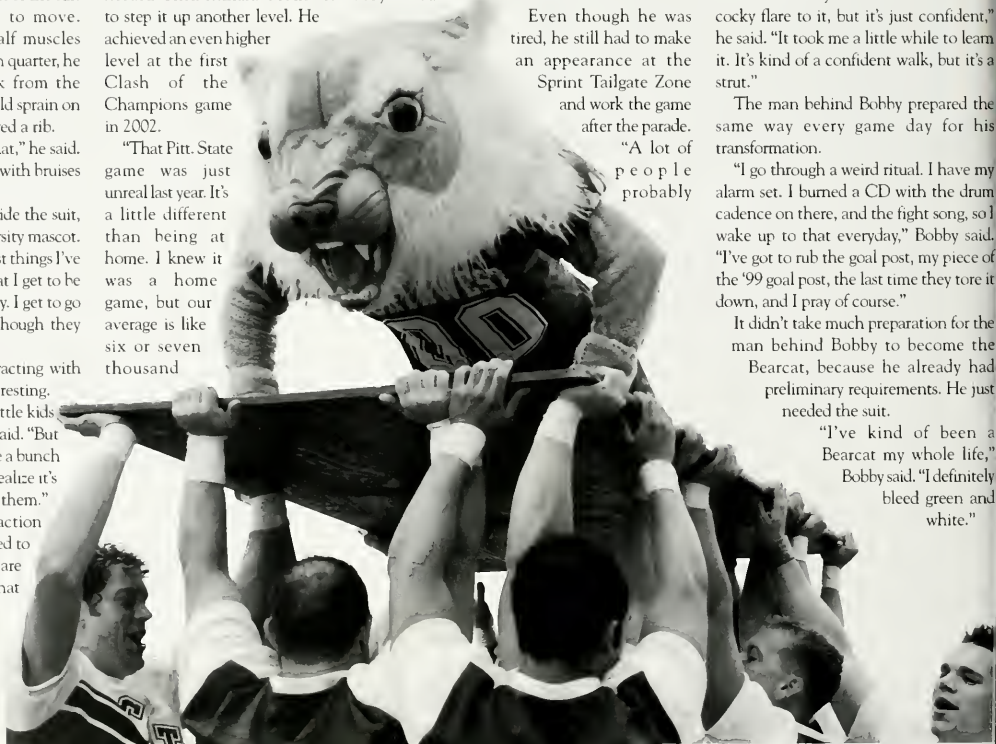
The man behind Bobby prepared the same way every game day for his transformation.

"I go through a weird ritual. I have my alarm set. I burned a CD with the drum cadence on there, and the fight song, so I wake up to that everyday," Bobby said. "I've got to rub the goal post, my piece of the '99 goal post, the last time they tore it down, and I pray of course."

It didn't take much preparation for the man behind Bobby to become the Bearcat, because he already had preliminary requirements. He just needed the suit.

"I've kind of been a Bearcat my whole life," Bobby said. "I definitely bleed green and white."

Supported by cheerleaders, Bobby Bearcat finishes his traditional set of push-ups after a touchdown. Fans often cheered Bobby on, hoping for a touchdown T-shirt. Photo by Mike Dye





Paws & reflect

Bobby set his push-up record of 360 during the Missouri-Rolla game.

One individual who posed as Bobby later became "Sluggerrr" for the Kansas City Royals.

The first creation of Bobby consisted of carved block of wood, fashioned to look like a cougar.

Progressive Performance

Auxiliary backs Bearcats

by trevor hayes

The Bearcat Marching Band formed a circle in the endzone after the Bearcat Steppers split off from the group. Their voices rose in a resounding 'Hooka.'

It was game time, and they were ready for another day of spirit and performance.

"I don't know how it started," saxophone player David Lefler said about the 'Hooka.' "The circle up is just to get us going. We have a lot of fun marching into the stadium with all the different stuff we do."

Their 'Hooka' started the game day sights provided by the band and the rest of the auxiliaries. The band performed a short pre-

game show, spelling out 'NW' and 'CATS' then welcomed the football team onto the field with the university fight song. They also performed a halftime show and kept spirits alive during the game by providing constant cheers of musical support.

Support from the band helped the crowd stay fired up while the cheerleaders and Steppers provided their support from the track on either side of the field.

"During timeouts and stuff, we're there to entertain the crowd and motivate them to cheer," cheerleader Selena Lawson said. "Putting signs up and doing cheers at the right time, so they know their team needs them."

The auxiliaries used their music and spirit to pump up themselves as well. They used intensity to inspire fans and players alike.

"I know that when the team runs out before pre-game, the football team runs in, and we're standing there yelling things at them, it has to get the team fired up," feature twirler Rachel Crawford said.

The band expressed its enthusiasm almost every second during games. They played songs, yelled and started chants to support their team.

"I think the football team loves it," Crawford said. "They're probably some of the most vocal fans you can find, and they're definitely the loudest."

The band included as many people as they could in their antics. Occasionally, a guest drummer sat with the drumline.

"With Bobby (Bearcat), they're always trying to get him involved," Crawford said. "He's over there playing the drums, and they're just always doing something."

To prepare, the auxiliary practiced intense discipline. They practiced their songs, routines and stunts until they were polished.

"It takes a lot of work; people have no idea," Crawford said. "The flag girls practice more than just with the band. The steppers are working all year. It's not something you just pick



up right before football season. The amount of work we put in is incredible."

With daily practice, the work could be frustrating and mentally or physically exhaust band members.

"It's a lot of concentration to stay in step, stay in time, be playing your music, moving and not hitting anybody at the same time," Lefler said. "There are lots and lots of things to be thinking about while you're marching. It literally takes about all of your concentration to not screw up."

Lefler wanted to be at the top of his game. He understood he had to work hard in order to perform well.

"I like performing because it's just a lot of fun," he said. "That's what the whole purpose of the class is, to just go and play. Mr. (Alfred) Sergel says on Saturday mornings that we've done all the work, and now, we're just going to go have fun."

Students said as Director of Bands, Sergel pushed his students and everyone around him to excel.

"Mr. Sergel has always been very supportive of the auxiliaries and truly amazing," Crawford said. "He will give you whatever is in his power to make your performance better."

Outstanding performances are what Sergel pushed his students toward in his 22 years at the university. Losing him meant the band lost a strong presence.

"This is Mr. Sergel's last year, and while I've only had him a few months, I can tell he's a great leader, and he will be missed," Lefler said.

Despite Sergel's decision, he and the rest of the Musical Pride of Northwest created music and entertainment while they still had time together.

"It's so much fun to bring a little hint of happiness," Crawford said. "People's lives are so difficult. You see people watching you and you see people smile, and you know that you made their day that much better. Hopefully, it adds a little to their overall experience of the game."



Emily VanBuskirk, Adam Nutting, Joe Lemmert and Victor Chininn-Buele wait to start playing as the Bearcats battle Central Missouri State in the Family Day game. It became tradition for parents to march alongside their son or daughter during the Family Day game. photo by Theresa Chiodini

Proudly displaying her first-down sign, Rochelle Frost steps up to the crowd to rally fans. Frost, a sophomore, spent her time on the squad as a second year cheerleader. photo by Trevor Hayes



With the band blaring behind her, Alyssa Walker and the mellophone section use their music to commend a Bearcat touchdown. With 114 members, the band led the crowd in musical cheers throughout the game. photo by Theresa Chudom

Fourteen Bearcat Steppers, followed closely by the band, circle the track at Rickenbrode. Before every game, the Steppers lead the rest of the auxiliary around the stadium to rile the fans. photo by Mike Doe



Super fans

the sport of spectating

by trevor hayes

Led by the Super Fan, they yelled, cheered and heckled every home game. They strove to be the loudest fans in the house, and pushed others to be like them.

Super Fan Grant Venable and the rest of his crew showed their spirit and enthusiasm for Bearcat sports, especially during football season. The group went even farther than dressing up at games by painting their house green with a giant white Bearcat paw.

"We just think the whole crowd should be like us," Nick Bromert said. "Not exactly like us, but more verbal, and they shouldn't sit down."

Venable started supporting Brian Lomas, a friend of his on the football team. Eventually, he met most of the team and became more vocal. Venable showed his support by painting Bearcat paws on shoulder pads and wearing face paint.

"I just decided to show him some support, and I ended up meeting the rest of the team," Venable said. "I know a lot of the guys pretty well now, and I just decided I love Bearcat football. So, I do it every Saturday, just kind of do it to support them."

Venable's support of the team and enthusiasm in the stands quickly earned him his title.

"I was in the Outback one night," Venable said. "And one of the football players grabbed me and said, 'you're the Super Fan,' and I said, 'okay.' So, I guess the football team gave it to me."

Venable got the idea for the spray painted pads from seeing pro-football fans dress up at Kansas City Chiefs games.

"The fans at Chiefs games are just insane, and I feel like we need somebody like that at Northwest games," Venable said.

Super Fan Clan game staples included hard hats, mullet wigs, overalls, bandanas and face paint.

"It's a way to get into the game," Bromert said. "It's like we put on our game faces. It's the final preparation before you walk out the door."

After applying the last bit of face paint, the crew headed to Rickenbrode Stadium and started the energy.

"Our group of people gets things going, and when the rest of the crowd gets into it, that's when we win football games," Venable said. "If we bring the thunder, we bring the noise, then we're one up on them. I lose my voice for the football guys every Saturday."

The group drew from every aspect of football games to keep their spirit alive. They used the band, other fans and Bobby Bearcat to stay fired up.

"We're good friends with Bobby," Bromert said. "It's kind of like he's there to pump up the crowd, and then, there is us. We're just more verbal. We see ourselves as the Bearcat voice. We say what Bobby can't. He's not allowed to be obnoxious, so we figure somebody needs to do it."

The Super Fan Clan viewed themselves as that somebody, and took pride in that.

"It's pretty crazy, we get pretty wild," Venable said. "If things get quiet we'll start a cheer up and get something going. If the other team says anything to us, we'll talk some trash."

Because opponents stood directly in front of the Super Fan Clan, a great deal of trash-talking took place between the fans and teams.

"The first time we see someone do something that we don't approve of, we have to find someone with a program and find out their name," Bromert said. "And then from there on, it's downhill for that player."

Even without trash talking, the group believed crowd support helped the Bearcats win. They believed whatever intensity they could muster helped the team immensely.

"The crowd has a huge effect on the game," Venable said. "When the crowd gets crazy and really into it, it just makes the team play that much harder. It gets the team psyched, and the other team starts to get down because our crowd's crazy."

Because of how the crowd helped the team, Venable and his group thought people should show their support for all sports on campus.

"I think people need to be supporting other athletics too, but if they're going to go to a football game, then they need to act like they're at a football game."



Michael Goymerac, Grant Venable and Matt Allen watch with anticipation as the Bearcats play a home game. Labeled the 'Superfan,' Venable and his crew cheer on the Bearcats at home games. photo by Trevor Hayes

Although he didn't make every home game, Super Fan did what he could for other sports.

"I don't go to all the games, but I try to make it to a lot of them. I make it to a few girl's soccer games, volleyball, boy's and girl's basketball."

Even though he believed in supporting other activities, Venable reserved his full spirit for his favorite sport, football.

"Northwest is probably one of the greatest football teams every year," Venable said. "We've always got a good winning football team, and with the crowd behind them, that's what makes a championship team."



“

If we bring the thunder, we bring the noise, then we're one up on them. I lose my voice for the football guys every Saturday.

Grant Venable

”

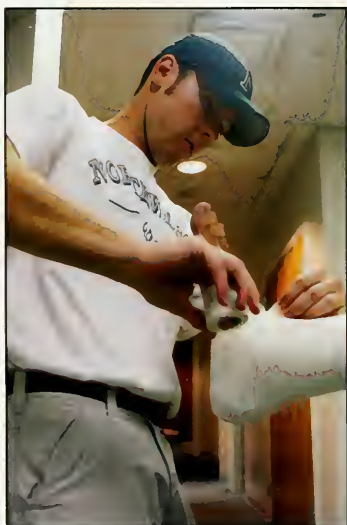
“

There is no point in worrying about what's going to happen. You just have to deal with what's going on.

Darred Nelson

”

Monty Chitty tapes up a Bearcat player's ankle. Chitty was the last athletic training intern. photo by Theresa Chedim



Darred Nelson wraps a university player's ankle to prevent it from being injured. Nelson, a graduate assistant, studied to become a trainer. photo by Trevor Hayes

Deanna Adams bandages a football player during the Mankato game. As a graduate assistant, Adams participated as an athletic trainer. photo by Trevor Hayes



Trained aides prevent pain

Ready help with small numbers and long hours

by trevor hayes

They waited on the sideline with gauze and bandages in hand. In glory or agony, they were ready to help at a moment's notice.

The athletic trainers always waited. If a team member was injured, needed stretched or someone to talk to, they were there.

"You're at the team's mercy; when they're there, you're there," graduate assistant Darred Nelson said. "You're there for the team."

One of four university athletic trainers, Nelson joined three other graduate assistants, an intern, assistant director and director to cover practices, games and meets to help rehabilitate athletes.

"We all have to help each other out," Assistant Athletic Training Director Kelly Quinlin said. "The athletic training staff has to be a team."

The trainers compromised and worked to overcompensate for the sports that outnumbered the trainers.

"We can't get to every practice," Athletic Training Director Dave Colt said. "There are just not enough of us."

Although they tried to spread themselves among the sports, they all could not be covered equally. Cross-country and tennis, deemed lower risk sports, did not have a full-time trainer.

Trainers struggled to cover each sport and to provide injured athletes proper treatment.

According to athletic training intern Monty Chitty, by the time they finished at night after a full day of classes and practices, it would be 7 or 8 p.m., and they would still have to eat and do homework.

"So, that part of it's pretty overwhelming," Chitty said. "You've got to have a certain mindset to do it."

Between icing, taping, cleaning, preparing and helping athletes stretch, trainers averaged about 20 hours per week.

"You've got to have a sense of humor, just because there are so many unexpected things that could come and that do come up," Nelson said. "There's no point in worrying about what's going to happen. You just have to deal with what's going on."

According to Nelson, knowing not to worry was just as important as the countless hours of rehabilitation.

"If an injury happens, you are with them all the time, treatment and everything," Chitty said.

In 23 years as director, Colt saw the character it took to become an athletic trainer. Even though he knew they moved on to better things, losing every student was a huge disappointment to him.

Colt said he probably learned as much from his students as he taught them and highly respected each one.

"People should know that these kids are all very dedicated," Colt said. "Their dedication is just immense."

According to Quinlin, the payoff proved worth it for their hard work and innumerable hours spent rehabilitating athletes and being where they were needed.

"It's awesome seeing people get better and perform out on the field, and knowing you helped," she said. "The smile on their face makes it all worth it."

The Last Intern

by trevor hayes

The athletic trainers took a blow when Monty Chitty graduated as the last member of the internship program.

"I don't want to think about it," Assistant Athletic Training Director Kelly Quinlin said. "I'm serious, because that's how much he does. It will definitely be a loss. We're going to miss him; that's for sure."

Soon after Chitty joined the internship program, the requirements to become a certified trainer changed. The new requirements stated a student must graduate college and attend graduate school as a graduate assistant.

With the new requirements set by the National Athletic Trainer's Association, the internship was no longer accredited. The athletic training internship ended Jan. 1. Those enrolled were allowed to finish.

"It takes away opportunities for students interested in this program," Chitty said. "We've already had to turn away a few students because this is it. This is the end."

As a former football player, Chitty connected with the athletes on a different level and knew how they felt.

"I got hurt when I was real young in high school," he said. "It was pretty serious. There was no one there to help me. So I decided I wanted to help those people, those kinds of people that needed it."

His injury spurred him into athletic training. He became active in the program and found his place on the staff.

While the job took Chitty's time and effort, he knew he made a difference and wanted to be a trainer. He said he would always remember watching the players he helped get back on the field and succeed.

"They score a touchdown, hit a few shots, and they look straight at you," Chitty said. "You know. That's what's rewarding. It's what does it for me, because you know they appreciate you. And you know they are recognizing you, and that's what keeps me going."

Luscious greens

Grounds crew takes pride in perservation of 'their field'

by trevor hayes

The grass radiated a dark green color in the soft October sunlight as a battle raged on the field. Painted lines shone out with a radiating contrast against the green. The grounds crew smiled.

They smiled because they maintained the field. Their hard work and long hours made it look sharp.

"I feel pretty good when people say the football field looks nice after going to a game," grounds crew worker Justin Heinen said. "Or a soccer game...and everything is green and kept up."

Six students worked for the athletic grounds crew, including Heinen. Led by Bob Ebrecht and assistant, Danny Smith, the grounds crew worked every day of the year in order to keep the athletic fields in shape.

"We've got to work all summer," Smith said. "We've got to maintain everything all year long. Even through Christmas break we are doing things."

Working throughout the year on all the sports gave the crew a multitude of jobs including painting lines, mowing grass, picking up trash, setting up for track and cross country meets held at the university and storing equipment.

"The biggest thing is just being able to listen to directions," Heinen said. "Because coming in, there are so many different things that we do."

The flexibility and variety set groundskeeping apart from most other campus jobs, and that's part of why Heinen did it.

"I would get bored working inside at a desk job," Heinen said. "I just like doing different stuff and not sitting in the same place everyday."

Because they had so many things to do every day, time became scarce for the crew.

"The hardest part is time management because everybody wants something done yesterday," Smith said. "So,

you've got to prioritize so you know what is going on when. It's really kind of stressful."

Ebrecht used his 15 years of experience to plan ahead and anticipate the next task.

"The coaches are easy to work with," Ebrecht said. "I try to out-think them and get it done before they ask, but sometimes they ask for something I didn't expect."

Coaches assistance made planning easier, but didn't take away from the long hours spent on the job.

"For football games, we're usually the ones to unlock the gates, get everything out and as soon as the game is over, we're the ones picking up everything off the sidelines, putting it away," Smith said. "The Horace Mann kids come through and pick up all the trash, but we've got to take it to the dumpsters. And then when we're done, you lock the gates and you can't tell anybody's hardly been there."

Despite the stress each week, Smith loved what he did.

"That's kind of like our pride and joy," Smith said. "Every week we try to do something just a little bit different to see if anybody catches it. Whether it's mowing 10 yards rather than every five, or realigning something."

Smith and Heinen took satisfaction in spending the week before each game making sure the field was in perfect condition.

"One of the biggest things is paying attention to detail," Heinen said. "You have to be able to know what something needs to look like and have to be able to do that. Whether it's painting straight lines, whether it's mowing or weed eating, you have to make sure that things look good. It's almost pride in your job, but you have to make sure everything looks good because so many people are going to see it."

Attention to detail in their own work allowed the members to appreciate what other crews had done. Smith always admired what he saw other crews accomplished.

"When I turn on a TV, the field is the first thing I notice, what they've painted, how they striped their field," Smith said.

The groundskeepers could appreciate what they saw other crews doing because after working at Rickenbrode and the other fields, they understood what it took to get it done.

"After you're working on the football field all week and it gets done with all the painting and the letters and the Bearcat paw, it just looks really neat," Heinen said. "It's good to see the end product when you're done with something."

Being able to see the results and watch players on "their fields" let the grounds crew take pride not only in their work but also in university teams.

"Since I've started, we've gone from 0-11 to winning two national championships," Ebrecht said. "We're a small part, but we feel like we're a part of it."



Justin Richardson helps set the lines on the field of Rickenbrode Stadium before the Washburn football game. The grounds crew cut the grass at an even 3 inches so the football players could dig into the turf and produce speed. photo by Theresa Chodini

Pouring environmentally safe green paint into a sprayer, David Stephens prepares to lay down the Bearcat paw in the center of the football field. Stephens, a second-year grounds crewman, helped ready the field before every home game. *photo by Theresa Chiodini*







Proud father watches on

Athletic director travels for professional football.

by Trevor Hayes

An overwhelming sea of red surrounded him, but he sat quietly. Among standing fanatics, he silently watched the field. With an unbroken face, university Athletics Director Dr. Bob Boerigter stood and clapped.

He expressed his excitement inside. Only one player on the Kansas City Chiefs could truly bring out his enthusiasm. Every time his son, wide receiver Marc Boerigter, lined up on the outside of the field and cut inside, Dr. Bob slid to the edge of his seat.

"I think I'm reasonably serene," Dr. Bob said. "I get excited. If Marc makes a big catch or something, I'll give my wife five. If I think it's going his way, I stand up. I'm probably more animated at home than I am in the stadium. In the stadium, I'm just one of 75,000 fans."

Marc's hard work paid off in December 2001, after two years with the Calgary Stampeders and a successful career at Hastings College in Nebraska.

Marc received offers from 24 NFL teams. To narrow the teams down, he held an individual tryout in Salt Lake City, Utah that January to show what he could do.

"We knew that, that was probably coming for him," Marc's mother, Mary Boerigter said. "I knew that he would do his very best. He seems to rise to the occasions when the pressure is on, and he did a fabulous job that day in Salt Lake City."

After the tryout, Marc signed with the Chiefs, one of five teams he narrowed the 24 possibilities down to.

"I can't take any credit for him ending up with the Chiefs," Dr. Bob said. "We had told him early on that we wanted him to go wherever was great."

Kansas City seemed to be great for him, and his close proximity proved to be great for his parents, and the rest of the family.

"The nice thing about being in Kansas City is that we can do the kind of things as a family that so many families do," Dr. Bob said. "We can get together on birthdays and have a birthday dinner, those kinds of things. If he was playing in Atlanta, that would be very difficult to do."

The Boerigters saw the importance of close family. Support for each other kept them close. Marc came to Clash of the Champions in 2002 because his father came up with the idea for the 'Cats to play at Arrowhead.

"Quite frankly, he came there not to watch the Bearcats, but he came there to be supportive of me and my event," Dr. Bob said. "He showed his support for me, like I try to show my support for him."

The Boerigters had always been close. They made sure to keep open lines of communication and took time to understand each other.

"I think that Bob treats Marc very much as an adult not as a son that needs guidance at this point in his life," Mary said. "That's sort of been the case throughout Marc's life."

Marc and younger brother John Boerigter established independence in college. John played tight end for William Jewell College in Liberty Mo., where no one knew his last name, and it worked until Dr. Bob became the Bearcats athletics director in 2001, and Marc signed with the Chiefs in 2002.

Marc left home after learning the Hastings football coach had plans to move him to the position he wanted as wide receiver.

"Our house was only about three blocks from campus. I mean, I walked to the office a lot," Dr. Bob said. "But he moved into the dorm, and he came home and slept at home at Thanksgiving and Christmas and Spring Break, and that was it."

At Hastings, Marc made a name for himself on the campus. He worked hard, and that paid off in college and the CFL.

The Boerigters were excited for Marc's success, but realized what he had done to get there.

"Every time (Marc's) had a chance that they've really given him an opportunity to play, he's made big plays. He's always done it," Dr. Bob said. "At first, it was inspiring to me, now it's just really hardly anything he does surprises me. Anyone, because he's just done it time and time again."

The Boerigters watched their son work every week, either in person at Arrowhead or on TV in their living room. Dr. Bob felt thrilled to watch Marc at Arrowhead but said it overwhelmed him more to see Marc on TV.

"Things happen on TV," Dr. Bob said. "I'll say to my wife, 'can you believe that Mary? That's our boy. We're watching him on national TV.'"

Dr. Bob loved the chance to see Marc do the work he enjoyed each week. He understood the fact most people didn't get the chance to see what their children did for a living.

"When you're a professional athlete and your job is to play on Sunday in front of the public, that's kind of a neat thing to see that and do that," Dr. Bob said. "So, my wife and I feel really quite blessed that we have that opportunity to kind of share in his work."

Certain weekends would match-up and Dr. Bob and Mary could make three games, the 'Cats, Jewel and the Chiefs.

"It just doesn't get any better than that," Dr. Bob said. "If I had the choice, I'd have a triple-header every weekend."

Triple-header weekends immersed the family in football, but they were brought closer together by sports.

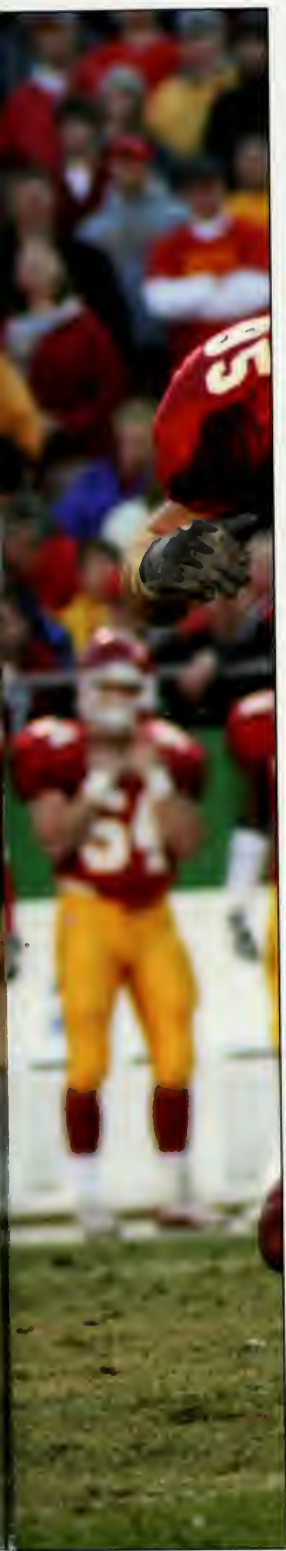
"Bob's goal for both of his sons was that they would learn to be team players from the time they were very little," Mary said. "He was never one that looked for them to be stars, or to be the pushy father behind them."

Bob felt strongly about the benefits of sports. When Marc was younger and not as talented, he did what he could to keep Marc active.

"I tried to continually tell him to be a part of the solution and not be part of the problem, and try to be positive," he said. "I hope that I encouraged him in the right way."

Intently watching the Kansas City Chiefs and Buffalo Bills game, Dr. Bob Boerigter watches his son, wide receiver, Marc Boerigter. The Boerigters had season tickets to watch their son play. *photos by Trevor Hayes*





Classic triumph

Last-minute block clenches second title

by trevor hayes

As the announcer's voice echoed through Arrowhead Stadium with news of Central's win over Emporia, Bearcat and Gorilla fans erupted. The Mules opened the gates for a five-way tie for the MIAA title.

The possibility for an unprecedented five-way tie for the MIAA championship set the mood for the second Fall Classic. Pittsburg State University played host to the Bearcats at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City. The stakes were just as high as they were the year before.

In 2002, the 'Cats dominated the Gorillas and went on to take the MIAA championship outright, but a different story occurred in 2003. Emporia State University and Pittsburg started Nov. 15 with one MIAA loss. Central Missouri State University, Missouri Western State College and the 'Cats each had two.

If the Mules defeated Emporia, and the 'Cats toppled the Gorillas, a four-way tie would occur. A Western victory over the winless University of Missouri-Rolla, would also let them take a share to complete the five-way tie.

"In our conference, we talk about how tough physically the conference is," Gorillas head coach Chuck Broyles said. "Anybody can beat you."

With so much at stake, Bearcat and Gorilla fans looked grim and tense before the game. The weather matched the atmosphere, as gray clouds covered the sky and a cool wind blew.

After 10 minutes of play, the Bearcats lit up the scoreboard with a 22-yard field goal by kicker Corey Paetznick.

On the ensuing Pitt. State drive, linebacker Andy Greger forced Gorilla running back Germaine Race to fumble. Defensive back Tyler Martin recovered the ball for the Bearcats.

Deep in Gorilla territory, quarterback Josh Lamberson finished an eight-play drive with a 10-yard pass to wide receiver Adam Otte. Paetznick followed with an extra point.

"Josh was getting me the ball," Otte said. "I know Jamaica and Andre (Rector) are the go-to guys, and whenever the ball comes my way, I just try to make the most of the opportunity."

After a run in the Fall Classic, Jamaica Rector is brought down by a pack of Pitt State Gorillas. Rector, a wide receiver from Texas, received a total of 103 yards and put six points on the board for the Bearcats. photo by Mike Day

As the clouds broke up early in the second quarter, Pitt. State answered back with a touchdown after six minutes of play. Gorilla quarterback Neal Philpot drove his team 49 yards, all on the ground. Philpot, who rushed for 32 yards on six plays, scored on a 1-yard keeper to make it 10-6.

The point after failed, and so did the next two possessions of the game, including a 35-yard field goal attempt by Paetznick. He redeemed himself on the next drive by hitting a 24-yard attempt, making it 13-6, with three seconds left before halftime.

At the half, the Bearcats led the Gorillas in possession time, 21:11 to 8:49; passing yards, 192 to 9; and total offense, 210 yards to 88. Pitt. State did, however, capitalize in one area. Head Coach Mel Tjeerdasma and his team wanted to establish a running game early, but the Pitt. State defense shut down the 'Cats, allowing only 18 yards on 16 rushes.

"You always say that you want to be balanced, but you do what you have to do to win football games," Tjeerdasma said. "We knew going into this game that we were going to have to throw the ball quite a bit."

The 'Cats came out throwing the ball again in the second half. On their first possession, Lamberson moved his team to the Pitt. State 32-yard line on a 33-yard reception by Andre Rector. However, the Gorillas stopped the Bearcats with pressure on Lamberson. After forcing an incomplete pass and a sack, Pitt. State picked Lamberson off keeping the Gorillas in the ballgame.

Against tough Bearcat defense, the Gorillas moved only 27 yards and punted.

When Lamberson took the field again, Pitt. State continued to pressure him, but he drove the 'Cats 85 yards to pay dirt. They made four first downs, and capped the drive off with 27-yard touchdown pass to Jamaica Rector. He stood alone in the corner of the endzone after Gorilla defenders left coverage to pursue the scrambling Lamberson. Paetznick tacked on the extra point, and the Bearcats took a 20-6 lead.

On the legs of Philpot and Race, the Gorillas moved the ball 35 yards in five plays to the Bearcat's 13. As the quarter expired, a holding penalty called back an 8-yard run by Race. Two plays

● continued 175

Celebrating in the endzone, Jared Finley and Mike Ferch congratulate Jamaica Rector on his touchdown. Receiving a total of 103 yards, Rector caught the longest touchdown pass from Lamberson for 27 yards.



Receiving a pass from quarterback Josh Lamberson, Andre Rector is hit hard from behind while still maintaining the ball. Rector caught 35 passes this season with a total 577 yards.

“

I felt like I had to do my part, and help our team win and once I did, I was like 'wow, I got the chance to make a play, and I did it.'

Tony Glover

”





Classic triumph

● continued from 173

later, Philpot scored from three yards out on another keeper, and the extra point made it 20-13.

The 'Cats went three plays and out, giving the ball back with 13 minutes on the clock. The Gorillas moved the ball down field from their own 37 to the Bearcat's 46. A fake punt on fourth and five turned into a 22-yard pass, and gave Pitt. State new life.

The Bearcat defense slowed the Pitt. State running game, but the Gorillas wouldn't quit. Race finished off the drive with a 10-yard run, however, the point after failed, leaving the score 20-19.

With the last bit of sun vanishing over the horizon, the Bearcats started what would be their last drive of the game. The Bearcats moved the ball 41 yards, but with 3:31 left, they punted from the Gorilla 34-yard line, 14 yards short of the red zone.

Pitt. State's offensive machine clicked, and they quickly drove 66 yards. The Gorillas heard the Central-Emporia news seconds before they took a timeout with 1:16 left in the game. They sat on the Bearcat 14-yard line down by one point after a 26-yard pass, good for a first down.

With little time left for a comeback from the 'Cats or another chance to score, the Gorillas knew they could win it. Pitt State's eyes sparkled, but the Bearcats were just as determined.

Fans on both sides stood at attention as Philpot took the reins and started what seemed to be the clincher for the game and the championship.

The next three plays, Philpot threw three incomplete passes to the endzone. The Gorillas attempted a 32-yard field goal.

The Gorillas snapped the ball, and immediately covered the 'Cats No. 2 kick blocker, defensive back Daryl Ridley. With this, defensive back Tony Glover, who opened lanes for Ridley, saw his chance. He sprang through the line of scrimmage and the ball hit him in the chest.

"I felt like I had to do my part, and help our team win," Glover said. "And once I did, I was like 'wow, I got the chance to make a play, and I did it.'"

The ball skittered away to the Bearcat 35-yard line with 55 seconds remaining. Lamberson downed the ball twice to run out the clock. The Bearcats narrowly escaped with victory.

"We knew someone was going to make the play," linebacker Adam Long said. "And when Tony blocked that kick, tears came down my face."

Quarterback Josh Lamberson outruns a Pitt. State player at the Fall Classic. Lamberson threw for a total of 320 yards and two touchdowns. photo by Mike One



Before the Bearcat football game, Sasi Simon totals up sales made during the tailgating festivities. Simon, a first year Sweetheart, was studying business management. *photo by Trevor Hayes*



At the Washburn game, Tiffany Lippincott talks with Bearcat fans. Lippincott, a junior looking to graduate with a degree in art, said besides supporting the team, "getting back to the families is the best thing we do." *photo by Trevor Hayes*

Jamie Roberts shouts encouragement for the Bearcat football team during their game against Washburn. Roberts and other Sweethearts corresponded with players' parents every week. *photo by Trevor Hayes*





Heartfelt fans

Connect through kindness

by trevor hayes

Sitting on the 50-yard line, the Sweethearts tried to motivate the team by yelling and chanting for their players to win.

The Bearcat Sweetheart Football Ambassadors committed themselves to helping the team. They gave recruitment tours, decorated the locker room, hosted the tailgates at the Sprint Bearcat Zone and corresponded with players' parents through letters and e-mails.

"I joined because I wanted to be more involved and meet new people," Ashley Hoyt said. "And I like football and thought it would be fun."

Sweetheart Becci Reinig said one of the major advantages to joining was meeting new people.

"You meet a lot of cool girls," Reinig said. "We're not all the same. We're all different ages and come from different backgrounds, so you get to meet a lot of new people that way."

Aside from required letters, tailgates and decorating, some Sweethearts went beyond the call of duty. They baked players desserts or bought magazines and candy for road trips.

Sometimes the extra effort didn't always go as planned. The Wednesday before the Missouri-Rolla game, Hoyt was baking cupcakes in Roberta Hall and left them in too long. The burning cupcakes set off the smoke alarm, and the hall had to be evacuated.

Although her players didn't get any treats that week, she still received thanks, and so did the rest of the Sweethearts. Their players always let them know how they felt about their kindness.

"I get a lot of appreciation," Reinig said. "I get thank-yous and hugs and that stuff from my players."

The relationships formed throughout the season lasted after the games were over.

During her first year in 2002, Stephanie Hastings made a collage of pictures for John Otte, one of her football players, and gave it to him after the season. In return he invited her to his home for dinner with his family where gifts awaited her.

"He made my first year awesome," Hastings said. "I wanted to thank him for that, and they made me feel really special by giving me something in return."

Lasting bonds formed by the kindness of the Sweethearts and parents forged friendships that went beyond the gridiron.

"They'll just come up and be like 'Hey you're my son's sweetheart. We appreciate all the letters,'" Reinig said. "They'll just give hugs, and it's an awesome experience interacting with them."

Bearcat Sweetheart Ambassadors cheer on the Bearcats at the Washburn game Oct. 4. The Bearcats beat Washburn 45-14. photo by Theresa Chodun



BEATEN, WORN AND TITLE HUNGRY

Champions prevail against all odds

by Trevor Hayes

Doubt hung over them, but four players stood smiling as head coach Mel Tjeerdsma fielded the media's questions.

"This has not been an easy year for us," Tjeerdsma said. "We struggled some. We had some disappointments. We had some adversity."

The 'Cats fought in uphill battles all season long. They fought through quarterback controversy, injuries to key players, losing to conference rivals but through it all they managed to win a piece of the conference championship.

The Bearcats were ranked No. 4 in the nation and favored to repeat as MIAA champions. They came into the season with high hopes, but quarterback controversy and questions about the offensive line and a young defense tainted them. The Bearcat offense lost several linemen including two NFL-caliber players in offensive tackles Alex Tuttle and 2003 NFL third round draft pick Seth Wand. They also lost record-breaking quarterback John McMinamin, and questions rose about who, if anyone, could fill his shoes.

Junior T.J. Mandl and sophomore Josh Lamberson fought through spring and fall training camps for the job, but no clear winner could be determined. They settled the controversy through game play.

Fan speculation of the Bearcats' opener at South Dakota State stood as a test of the team's skill. Turnovers hurt the 'Cats, as they were shutout 20-0. Their first shutout since 1996, an 80 game streak.

Fans immediately questioned the team. They wanted a quarterback, and they wanted to revive past Bearcat dominance.

"You want to start off with a win, and I just don't think that we were mentally prepared for the type of game that we got into there," Tjeerdsma said. "South Dakota State was well prepared. It was a big game to them and it wasn't to us, and it cost us."

A week later, at the rainy Stadium Dedication Day, fans received answers. Mandl got the start, but Minnesota State University-Mankato began to shut the 'Cats down.

With 7:16 left, Lamberson came into the game and ignited the offense. In just over two minutes the 'Cats scored two touchdowns for a 20-16 win. Lamberson earned player of the game and the starting job.

"It all happened so fast that I didn't have time to think about it," Lamberson said. "You just go out there and try to make the most of what you've got, and I was blessed that my teammates made some great plays. It gave us a win we really needed."

The No. 7 Central Missouri State University Mules churned into Rickenbrode Stadium the next weekend for Family Day. The No. 17 'Cats traded points with the Mules for three quarters, but the 'Cats defense fell apart in the fourth quarter. The Mules put up 28 unanswered points. The 'Cats allowed both CMSU running backs to gain 100 yards in the 52-24 loss. No team had scored 52 points at Rickenbrode Stadium since 1988.

The next week at the University of Missouri-Rolla, the unranked 'Cats proved their defense and regained a .500 winning percentage. The Bearcats blew the Miners away in the first quarter and kept pounding. They scored 16 points on defense alone and beat the Miners, 60-22.

The next week, the 'Cats rolled again as Washburn University came to Maryville. Defense set the tone, ending the Ichabods first three drives in interceptions. The Ichabods managed to drive through the 'Cat defense twice and score 14 points, but couldn't match the explosive Bearcat offense, which unloaded 45 points in the game. ● continued 101

With the team gathered around him, head coach Mel Tjeerdsma tells the Bearcats to remember they won the game because of the contributions of teamwork. The 'Cats racked up 450 yards of offense and the defense held Truman State University to 56 yards of offense in the second half. *photo by Theresa Chudom*





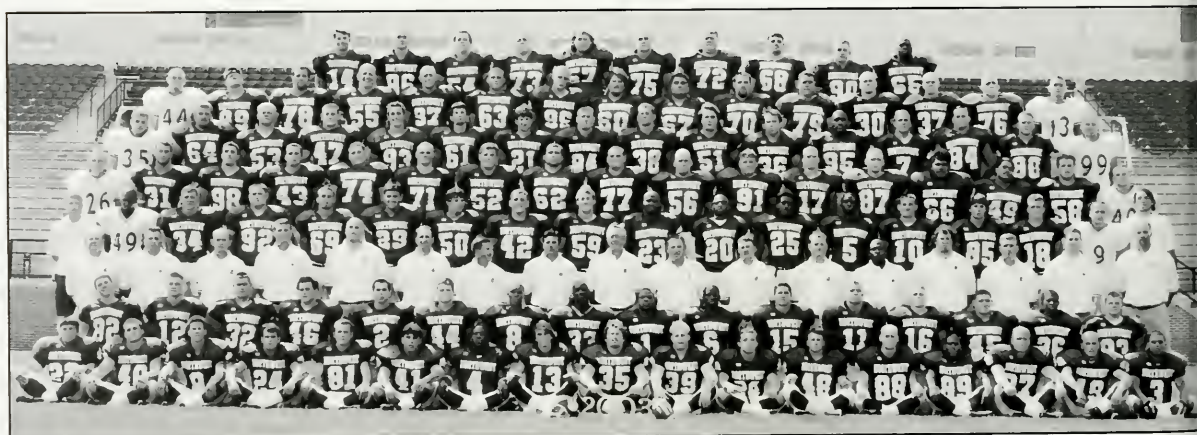
Running in a 5-yard touchdown, T.J. Mandl holds up the football in victory against Truman State University. He completed 14 passes for 237 yards and threw for one touchdown in the game. *photo by Mike Dye*



Defying gravity, Jamaica Rector launches himself above Minnesota State University-Mankato defenders. Rector caught 12 passes during the game for 129 yards and two touchdowns including the game winner. *photo by Mike Dye*

Breaking a tackle by a Central Missouri State University Mule, Morris White tries to gain field position on a kick return. White had four kick returns against the Mules for 74 yards and a long of 33 yards. photo by Mike Dye

After his catch Andre Rector spins to see a Central Missouri State University defender in his way. Rector had eight receptions for 162 yards and two touchdowns. photo by Mike Dye



Front Row: Scott Provaznik, Chad Bostwick, Jared Ruffin, Jason Chunn, Paul Otte, Zach Sherman, Morris White, Tyler Martin, Todd Wessel, Mitch Herring, Shon Wells, Jamie Martin, Caleb Obert, Karrington Rogers, Mike Fiech, Derek Garrett, Darrell Clark Row 2: Nick Glasnapp, Andy Hampton, Kelly Williams, Gabe Middleton, Pat Whitt, Brandon Pratt, E.J. Falkner, Xavier Omon, Darryl Ridley, Jamaica Rector, Jeff Netolicky, Adam Long, Joel Mathews, Bart Hardy, Dieteas Calbert, Adam Otte Row 3: Richard Cronk, Sean Shafar, Charlie Flohr, Casey Meile, Curt Lessman, Scott Courter, Bart Tatum, Jim Svoboda, Mel Tjeerdsmia, Scott Bostwick, Greg Bonnett, Will Wagner, Thomas Kearney, Gabriel Helms, Tony Glover, Danuen Chumley, Andre Rector, Josh Lamberson, Jared Meyerkorth, Chris Healy, Chris Termini, Jared Bucknidge, Ryan Bowers, Ricky Quackenbush, Daren Roberts, John Kearney, Joe Holteclaw, Kurt Bertles, Josh Beagley, Josh Drewes, Daniel Boyd, Brett Clemens, Jason Dunsworth, Josh Mathews, Kyle Mack, Joe Kenealy Row 4: Jace Champlin, Ben Harness, Jared Findley, Mike Nannings, Joe Holteclaw, Kurt Bertles, Josh Beagley, Josh Drewes, Daniel Boyd, Brett Clemens, Jason Dunsworth, Josh Mathews, Kyle Mack, Joe Turner, Richard Fonoti, Kyle Kaner, Andrew McInyre Row 5: Tyson Standa, Eric Hoyt, Jordan Wilcox, Heath Finch, Eric Goudge, Matt Johnston, Steve Morrison, Ryan Waters, Troy Tysdahl, Josh Honey, Andy Greger, Justin Lacy, T.J. Mandl, Mike Tehen, Brandon Rogers, Kirk Houseman, Row 6: Caleb Dohrman, Jason Yeager, Nick Tones, Cody Campbell, Tyler Northway, Josh Hunter, Dallas Flynn, James Wiegand, Raymond Fonoti, Andrew Hutson, Gabe Frank, Marcus Smith, Jake Jenkins, Galen Read-Hess, Gerrit Hane, Back Row 7: Aaron Froehlich, John Goss, Mike Benninga, Geoff Bollinger, Gerrad Goos, Tom Pestock, Brad Schneider, Joel Givens, Dave Tollefson, Kenneth Eboh



BEATEN, WORN AND TITLE HUNGRY

● continued from 178

"We got back and played Washburn here and played real well against them," Tjeerdsma said. "We started to put things together."

The 'Cats began to succeed. The Missouri-Rolla game jump-started the team and Washburn put up little fight. But with a trip to No. 10 Emporia State University, the odds were once again stacked against the Bearcats. The Hornets were unbeaten, and the 'Cats sat just above .500 for the first time that season.

The Hornets squared off for a defensive grudge match. The two high powered offenses were at a stand still. The Bearcats made their only score in the first half on a field goal by freshman walk-on kicker Corey Paetznick. He added two more in the third quarter, one after a blocked punt by junior wide receiver Morris White, making the final 16-13.

Paetznick's field goals started the offense and the defense dominated. For the second week in a row, they kept their opponent to two touchdowns and held a 100-yard rusher down.

The Homecoming game against Missouri Southern State University allowed the No. 25 ranked Bearcats to showcase their entire team in front of the season's largest home crowd. The Bearcats tore apart the Lions, winning 47-14.

Even though the offense scored 47 points for the second year in a row, the Don Black Award for player of the game went to a defensive player, junior linebacker Chad Bostwick. He scored on a 45-yard interception return during a fake punt, contributed six tackles, two for loss, and a sack.

"We had a great defensive effort against them and played well on offense," Tjeerdsma said. "We had a few turnovers, and had the kickoff return for a touchdown."

By the game at Missouri Western State College, the MIAA had five teams vying for first place. Pittsburg State University, Emporia, Western, Central and the Bearcats all had one conference loss and were atop the MIAA.

With four games left, the 'Cats could win the MIAA championship. If they won their last games, they would be champions, lose and nothing could be guaranteed.

Their rivals looked tough. The Griffons had a strong special teams and solid defense but forced more turnovers than allowed.

The 'Cats came out firing and took a 24-7 lead at halftime. But the Western defense shut out the 'Cats in the second half and sent the game into overtime. The Griffons capitalized and won 30-27, knocking the 'Cats out of first in the MIAA.

In addition winning for the second straight year in overtime, and possibly destroying the chance of a championship, the Griffons also put Lamberson on the bench.

Returning home with their heads slightly hung, the Bearcats prepared for Truman State University and the Old Hickory Stick game without their star. Lamberson's knee injury raised questions about how the offense could function after losing one of its major catalysts, if his mobility would be the same and if the 'Cats had any hope left.

"It was frustrating, because I'd never really been hurt or had anything to keep me out of practices," Lamberson said. "I knew though, if I wasn't 100 percent then I wouldn't be able to help the team and we had other guys who were capable of getting the job done."

Tjeerdsma knew Truman would be ready for the game, and while the defense kept the Bulldogs leashed, the offense ran up the score.

"It's good to keep the stick green," junior linebacker Troy Tysdahl, who had an interception for a touchdown said. "That little stick means a lot to us."

The home finale against Southwest Baptist University saw Lamberson's return and the two teams went back and forth throughout the game with the 'Cats squeaking by 26-24.

"We just got a win," Tjeerdsma said. "We didn't play real well, especially on defense."

The 'Cats found hope in the last week of the season at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City. Things worked out and they were in the championship hunt. If Emporia lost to Central, Western won its game and the 'Cats saw victory; a five-way tie would be in place, but Pitt. State stood in the way.

Through the whole game, the teams battled back and forth, missing opportunities. The game came to a climax with a 35-yard field goal attempt by Pitt. State. The 'Cats led 20-19, and the clock ticked away with less than a minute to play. Junior defensive back Tony Glover blocked the kick.

"I'm really happy with the way it ended. I was frustrated at times, because I just didn't feel like we played as well as we could have," Tjeerdsma said. "For us to be able to end that way and be able to go in the off season with that feeling is just great."

Scores & statistics

Central Missouri State University	24-52
University of Missouri-Rolla	60-22
Washburn University	45-14
Emporia State University	16-13
Missouri Southern State University	47-14
Missouri Western State College	27-30
Truman State University	37-0
Southwest Baptist University	26-24
Pittsburg State University	20-19
MIAA	7-2
Overall	8-3

Jamaica Rector: All American, Harlan Hill Trophy Finalist ● All MIAA First Team: Darryl Ridley, Ken Ebboh, John Edmonds and Jamaica Rector

Scores & statistics

Men

Central Missouri State	3rd
Woody Green/DNL Invitational	10th
Dean White Invitational	1st
Loyola Lakeland Invitational	7th
Concordia Invitational	2nd
MIAA Championships	4th
Regional Championships	5th

Women

Central Missouri State	5th
Woody Green/DNL Invitational	15th
Dean White Invitational	3rd
Loyola Lakeland Invitational	18th
Concordia Invitational	4th
MIAA Championship	7th
Regional Championships	10th

●Megan Hamilton broke the 6K personal record two weeks in a row, setting 23:42:90 at the regional championship ●John Heil and Kyle Keraus MIAA All-Conference Honors and All-Regional Honors

Heather Brokaw gains ground in a drier area of the Concordia Invitational. Woodchips were put down on parts of the course to combat mud, but the course was still soft enough for the runners feet to sink into the ground. photo by Matt Frye



PERSISTENT MOTIVATION

Attitudes overcome elements

by Trevor Hayes

Grey clouds covered the sky, rain ceased, but a thin mist held. The silence of the woods broke with yells and the slogging of feet through thick mud.

As senior Mark Aubrey's foot came down it sunk into another hole at the Concordia Invitational. His legs were splattered with mud, but he pressed on the same way the rest of the cross country team did all season.

The women's team struggled through injury and sickness as the men trudged on.

The women dealt with walking pneumonia, a stress fracture, personal sickness and tendonitis. Vikki Wooten referred to the plagued runners as her "Walking Wounded."

Even though the women ranked seventh out of eight teams in the MIAA preseason poll, and the men were only sixth, team expectations were high at the beginning of the season.

"We didn't finish as high as I thought we were capable of at the beginning of the year," Wooten said. "By the end of the year, we were basically running without our top three runners."

Freshman Heather Searls, sat out because of a stress fracture, junior Ashley Grosse dealt with a broken wrist and senior Betsy Lee battled through the flu and colds.

The injuries hit the men at the end of the season, which hurt national qualification.

Despite being drug down by missing runners and constant loss of time, both teams remained optimistic about the progress of their season.

"The only people that really did have faith in our cross country team, that our team was a good team, was ourselves," sophomore Dia McKee said. "Pushing through, that is extremely hard. I think that was the biggest challenge for ourselves throughout the season was staying motivated."

Toward the end of the year, their ability to stay motivated showed. They were able to gain ground on other teams in their conference.

"We ran well as a team," McKee said. "We packed it up this year, which is something we hadn't done in the past."

Packing, in cross country, was the strategy for a team to put its top five runners together. Each runner placed in the meet, and the top five were added together. With over 400 runners in each race, their packing abilities showed through at the Loyola Lakefront Invitational. The men placed seventh overall, and the women took 18th out of 34 teams in each race. A week later, in the mud at Concordia, the men were able to stay together again, taking second overall, while the women finished last.

Coming into conference and regionals, both teams were still optimistic, but neither made it to nationals. The women took seventh in the conference and 10th in regionals. The men took fourth in the conference and fifth in regionals, one place away from national qualification.

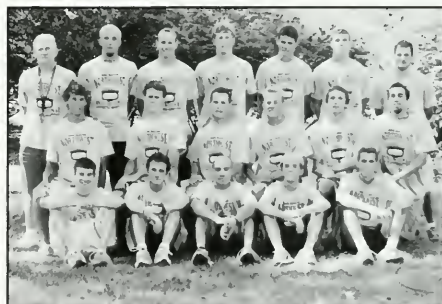
Both Phillips and Fowler ran, but neither performed to their top capability. Phillips sprained his ankle, and Fowler caught a nasty flu virus.

"Things happen," Alsop said. "As injuries and illness can happen here or there, they can kind of screw things up."

The teams were slowed down all season. But when they could, the Bearcats pressed on and made the most of their situation.

"You just got to go as fast as you can over the dry spots," Aubrey said. "Even though there weren't very many."

As he rounds the corner Eric Isley leads the pack at the Concordia Invitational. Since he was a short-distance runner, he ran only the few kilometers before dropping out. *photo by Matt Frye*



Front Row: Matt Pohlen, Jamson Phillips, Ronnie Anselmo, Drew Wilson, Mark Aubrey Row 2: Marcus Muhs, Laz Marquart, Brad Elliot, Kyle Keras, Eric Isley, Denck Delanty Back Row: head coach Richard Alsop, Chad Fowler, John Heil, Matt Weeder, Bryan Touney, Brad Trede, assistant coach Nate Christenson



Front Row: Jessica Montesono, Ashley Stanard, Heather Searls, Dia McKee, Ashley Grosse Row 2: Heather Brokaw, Megan Hamilton, Kim Homan, Kara Poehlman, Maudie Irisk Back Row: head coach Vicki Wooten, Lacey Jackson, Erica Heerman, Betsy Lee, Julie Toebe, assistant coach Erin Parnell

Sacrifice for success

Training gives runners edge

by trevor hayes

As the runner's foot lightly touched the ground and left again, pain prickled and muscles ached. For most runners, the extreme amounts of pain suffered paid off after each race.

Immense amounts of training went into the season for each cross country runner. In the summer months, the runners were expected to run between 25 and 40 miles per week, strengthening the pace little by little. Once the season started, mileage decreased. They received two days of easier running but could clock up to 14 miles on given days.

"If you run cross country, once you get in shape then it only hurts for a little bit," women's head coach Vicki Wooten said. "You go out and do the intervals, and you think you're going to die. But five minutes later, you are just fine."

Cross country runners utilized slogans like 'mind over matter' and 'pain is just weakness leaving the body.' To some people, those slogans were just words, but true runners believed in them.

"If you don't run and you don't love running, you don't understand," Wooten said. "It takes somebody who loves running. They have to absolutely love running, and they would do it no matter what."

According to men's head coach Richard Alsop, runners were no strangers to sacrifice. They monitored their intake of unhealthy foods and alcohol, were encouraged to take vitamins, eat vegetables and load up on carbohydrates.

Alsop said without the right fluids and fuel, runners couldn't perform at the same level as those that did get enough nutrients and did the suggested mileage in the summer.

"The human body can adapt to almost any kind of rigorous physical testing," Alsop said. "The key is that you use a nice slow workout program and eat well."

Dieting right, racking up mileage and pushing themselves to run harder took devotion. Training consumed large chunks of time.

"It just takes a lot of dedication," freshman Matt Pohren said. "That's the biggest key, is dedication to it. You have to be dedicated, and you have to be prepared to come out."

Most runners learned how and what to think while in action. They knew a high threshold of tolerance had to be set to perform.

"The hardest thing everyday is being prepared mentally as well as physically," Pohren said. "It's

hard enough doing workouts, but it takes a lot of mental preparation."

In the mornings Pohren woke up and knew he had to go run, not because someone told him to, but because he wanted to be in shape and compete at the highest level.

Pain, fatigue and aching limbs came with performing at high levels of competition, but finding a way to deal with it became the battle.

"A lot of times, you can't think about what you are doing. Otherwise, you start to think about your pain," freshman Kim Homan said. "When you're starting to get into the race, you start to worry about the competition, and your mind might not be distracted by the pain."

Runners tried many things to battle their aching bodies and get their minds off the task at hand. Some talked on the road or told jokes, while others tried to better themselves.

Competing with teammates in practices and meets pushed runners to work harder. Focusing on a better runner could help not only improve individuals but the whole team.

"There's always one guy who's feeling good that day or feeling better than everyone else," Pohren said. "You feed off their energy. They're always leading it, and it's easy to focus on their back, and just keep as close to them as possible."

When every member on the team focused during training, it pushed the team that much farther, but with that came more pain. Homan said her teammates understood how badly she hurt because they were experiencing it also, which helped her cope.

"I don't think people fully understand or appreciate cross country yet," Pohren said. "It's definitely an underrated and appreciated sport compared to basketball or football. It's definitely excruciatingly painful at various times."

Even though they didn't receive the appreciation they deserved, cross country runners pushed themselves to the limit for their teams but also for themselves.

"You might not, when you're running, feel like it's worth it," Homan said. "But it is after the race when you've accomplished your goal."

A pack of cross country runners brave the cold to continue their training after cross country season ended. Most runners used track as off-season training to keep in shape. photo by Mike Dye





UNSET SEASON

Bearcats win one home game

by Trevor Hayes

Between injury, overpowering competition, and a new coach, the women's rebuilding process started slowly.

Two conference wins were all the Bearcats could manage. Adding only three non-conference wins, the Bearcats still considered 5-27 a good year.

"I think it shows that we struggled this year," freshman defensive specialist Amy D'Amato said. "We really struggled to get that win sometimes, but what it doesn't show is the character that was built, because when you struggle, you always build character."

New head coach Lori DeJongh-Slight focused on character and pride as she started a new era in Bearcat Volleyball. While dealing with multiple hardships, the team built what they could.

"I don't want to say that the season was disappointing," DeJongh-Slight said. "I think we accomplished a lot of good things. We had a lot of adversity that had happened during the season."

The Bearcats pieced together a hard-fought season and had a few surprises along the way losing several returners and two high level players to season-ending injuries. Sophomore Sara Jones sprained her ankle and had surgery after 10 games. Freshman outside hitter Sarah Trowbridge suffered a knee injury in the first home match after 45 games.

Trowbridge became a motivator and a team leader after Jones' injury. The year before, Jones played the role of primary passer and held down the defense.

According to DeJongh-Slight, without defense, volleyball teams can't have good passing and good passing leads to good offense.

With the absence of two team leaders, the 'Cats needed someone to step up and fill their shoes. Freshman, outside hitter Mackenzie Heston became that someone.

"Mackenzie came in as a freshman, with Sarah (Trowbridge) and just stepped up," Slight said. "We moved her to a new position, and she just played lights out for us."

Junior middle hitter Steph Suntken also led the team with the most kills and digs and took second in blocks behind Heston. The pair pulled the team together, but the 'Cats couldn't string together any wins.

"Many of the games were very close, and there were a lot of them where we just didn't get the breaks," senior outside hitter Carrie Johnson said.

Playing against strong competition didn't allow many breaks. Throughout the season, four to five teams in the MIAA were nationally ranked.

The Bearcats record didn't show the intensity the team challenged opponents with. The Bearcats played to their opponent's level many times, and several opposing coaches told them they were close, they just needed to finish.

"If only we were able to keep the consistency and carry that over, there's a lot of teams that we would have beat very easily," Johnson said. "It's just something that comes with young players and a lot of new players."

D'Amato and the rest of the 'Cats knew hard times were ahead. They knew consistency and strong programs didn't come overnight, and coming back from a five win season would be tough, but they still dreamt of glory.

"I look more towards the future, and I don't see any reason why we can't be like that," D'Amato said. "The consistency they had came from building their program, and Coach will build our program."





Against Southwest Baptist University, Leslie Junker volleys the ball over the net. Baptist provided the Bearcats' lone home win of the season. *photo by Theresa Chudini*

Settled underneath the ball Hollie Gillette sets Leslie Junker. Gillette led the team in assists with 897 for the season. *photo by Theresa Chudini*



Scores statistics

Emporia State University	0-3, 0-3
Washburn University	0-3, 0-3
Central Missouri State University	0-3, 0-3
Missouri Western State University	0-3, 0-3
Truman State University	0-3, 0-3
Pittsburg State University	0-3, 0-3
Southwest Baptist University	3-0, 3-2
Missouri Southern State University	0-3, 0-3
MIAA	1-15
Overall	5-27

- All-MIAA Honorable Mention: Mackenzie Heston
- Nominated for MIAA Freshman of the Year: Mackenzie Heston

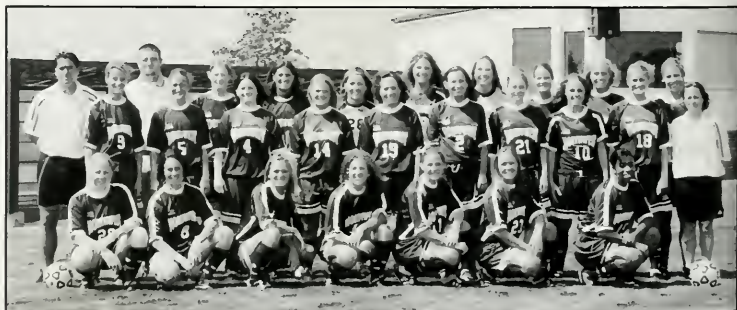


Front Row: Carrie Johnson, Sarah Trowbridge, Leah Day, Christina Cipolla, Hollie Gillette, Sara Jones, Melea Zacharias Back Row: Amy Ruff, assistant coach April Rolf, head coach Lori DeJongh-Slight, Mandy Tyrone, Mackenzie Heston, Leslie Junker, Steph Sunkten, Amy D'Amato, assistant coach Amy Phelps, Melissa Wunder

In an attempt to cut-off a Rockhurst University run, Jill Anderson intercepts the ball. Anderson earned All-MIAA recognition all four years of her collegiate career. *photo by Trevor Hayes*



Against Graceland University, Emily Perkins battles for control of the ball. Perkins tied for second on the team in points with two goals and four assists. *photo by Mike Dye*



Front Row: Katie Van Dusseldorp, Heather Kolbo, Carlie Hoskins, Jill Anderson, Kristi Potee, Becky Marston, Aisha Samuel Row 2: Emily Perkins, Katie Fowler, Rory Okey, Brandy Sonnichen, Jont Pusateri, Megan Kruger, Tiffany Robertson, Amy Jackson, Jesse Steners, head coach Tracy Cross Back Row: assistant coach Robert Battison, trainer Drew Erks, Jamie Campbell, Lindsay Schubert, Sheena Claxton, Alison Sheridan, Michelle Goold, Sarah Wallace, Christine Collins, Beth Gutschenritter

DEFENSIVE OVERHAUL

new team standards built

by Trevor Hayes

Bearcat soccer officially began anew with a coaching staff and 11 players to start their rebuilding process.

New head coach Tracy Cross and assistant Robert Battison's goal for the season became defense. In 2002, the Bearcats allowed 60 goals in 18 games, winning only three times. Cross wanted to concentrate on a solid defense.

"It's a lot easier to work on defense and get that down than it is on attacking," Cross said. "You come in, and you say 'What's the easiest thing you can do first?'"

After nine games, opponents scored 16 goals. In 2002 opponents scored 39 goals in that time, the same amount given up in 20 games in 2003.

"It was exciting, because we were actually, for the first time, competing with teams," senior defender Jill Anderson said. "I think our confidence was boosted with them, because we were staying with teams, and we were shutting them down. We just couldn't finish."

Their inability to finish explained the seven overtimes, and their 3-13-4 record. "I don't think (our record) does us justice at all, because we're just so much better," junior midfielder Rory Okey said. "At the games, it was obvious that we dominated some of the games that we didn't come out with wins."

Okey and Anderson attributed their play to better fitness. According to Okey, practices were always moving. Cross' intensity and expectations motivated the 'Cats to produce their best effort, and she accepted nothing less.

"She is much more organized and regimented, where our other coach was more laid back," Anderson said. "They're totally different. It was just extremes. It's definitely much more business now. We have to stay more focused, and I think that has definitely helped us improve."

In late October, after three-point losses to Washburn University and Emporia State University, Cross told the team, they decided how hard they would finish the season.

Okey said she saw improvements after the meeting, including a hat trick by freshman midfielder Beth Gutschenritter in the final game against Missouri Southern State University for a win. But the 'Cats went only 1-5-1 in the final weeks of the season.

Rebuilding takes time, and even though Anderson and Okey knew they could probably not reap any of the benefits, they were happy to see it come.

"It was the start of making the program better," Okey said. "It's now when you start setting examples and making things happen so the kids in the future have a good program."

Anderson said she didn't improve much as a player in college until her final season under Cross. She wished she'd be around for the rest of the rebuilding.

"The whole season has been bittersweet," Anderson said. "I would definitely want to be a part of the rebuilding, because it's something I've wanted to see since I was a freshman, but it'll be exciting to come back and see."

Anderson could see the eight freshmen who joined the Bearcats at the start of the season lead the future of the program. Cross counted on them to continue progressing the team throughout the following seasons.

"Freshmen from a skill and performance perspective, those are the students that have the ability to work on the skills that we talked about," Cross said.

Cross knew her next few years would be hard, but planned on taking each year one step at a time. They would work on attacking and offense next season, gaining home field advantage and putting more points on the board.

"It's not easy to build a reputation and set things straight," Cross said. "There are a lot of things to work on when you come into a program that hasn't had a tradition of being successful. It's a matter of breaking it down, working on one thing at a time."



Deep in Missouri Southern State University territory Becky Marston takes one of her two shots in the game. The Bearcats and Southern series stood at 3-4-1 at the end of the season after a tie and a Bearcat win. photo by Mike Dye

Scores & statistics

Washburn University	3-1, 1-4
Central Missouri State University	0-1 OT, 2-2 OT
Truman State University	0-3, 1-5
University of Missouri-Rolla	1-1 2OT, 0-0 2OT
Missouri Southern State University	0-0 2OT, 3-1
Emporia State University	1-4, 0-1 OT
Southwest Baptist State University	0-3, 1-2 OT
MIAA	2-0-4
Overall	3-13-4

- Beth Gutschenritter tied the record for most goals scored in a match with three ● All-MIAA Second Team: Jill Anderson and Gutschenritter ● Honorable Mention All-MIAA: Sarah Wallace

DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP

Parker holds backbone of team together

by Trevor Hayes

Scores & statistics

Southwest Baptist University	85-65, 81-61
University of Missouri-Rolla	73-60, 73-82
Missouri Western State College	74-65, 90-67
Missouri Southern State University	77-52, 93-81
Washburn University	63-72, 59-80
Pittsburg State University	72-70 OT, 82-64
Truman State University	68-63, 73-52
Emporia State University	84-70, 55-72
Central Missouri State University	68-58, 79-75
MIAA	14-3
Overall	23-4
MIAA Championship Tournament	1st

● Kelvin Parker scores more than 1,500 points, fifth in Bearcat history ● Steve Tappmeyer won his 300th game ● Byron Jackson and Austin Meyer earned All-American Honorable Mention.

A flood of green jerseys swarmed the court as the Bearcats won their second MIAA Tournament Championship in the last three years.

Between the leadership of senior guard Kelvin Parker and the tutelage of head coach Steve Tappmeyer, the Bearcats continued to be a reckoning force in the MIAA. With strong leadership and help from everyone on the court the 'Cats reached new heights.

The Bearcats went into the post-season tournament with high hopes. After soundly beating Southern and handling Western, they prepared for the championship game against Washburn, a team who owned them in the regular season.

After being down by as much as nine, the 'Cats fired back in the second half ending the game on a 28-10 run led by James who scored all 13 of his points in the second half. Bearcat fans were overjoyed as they watched the men cut down the nets after winning championships.

"It's just very rewarding for our fans, we've got a great following," Tappmeyer said. "You always like to please your fans, and for us to get a double dip like this, I think it will go down as one of the special days in Northwest sports history."

"The season's gone really well," junior guard Jesse Shaw said. "Obviously we don't want to lose, but when we look back a few years down the road, this is going to be a season we remember."

The 'Cats opened season in late November winning the Ryland Milner Classic, Rock U Classic and the High Desert Classic which finished out their non-conference play.

The 'Cats picked up where they left off over winter break when play resumed. They tore through conference opponents and climbed national rankings.

The 'Cats beat Missouri Western State College Jan. 7. Playing in St. Joseph, the No. 4 'Cats traded punches throughout the first half, but three points was the closest Western came in the second half. Sophomore forward Austin Meyer led the 'Cats to a nine-point win with five three-pointers and 21 points over the arch rival Griffons to stay undefeated.

"It keeps putting a big bulls-eye on your back," Tappmeyer said. "You never catch anybody with an off night, and that sort of thing. But it's obviously a good situation to be in, and it shows that our guys answered a lot of challenges."

The 'Cats peaked at No. 1 and were defeated by No. 13 Washburn University on Jan. 14, the day after being named the nation's top team. The Bearcats tied the score twice but never came close again after 16:05 left in the first half. Senior forward Keanan Weir hit three straight three-pointers to end the first quarter, but the Bearcats still trailed by seven. After the half a five-point lead was the smallest Washburn held.

"They came in and just hit us in the mouth and knocked us back and beat us," Tappmeyer said. "They're a good team, and they have plenty of motivation going their way. We were the challenge, I think, they were looking for to show just how good of a team they were."

The loss ended the 'Cats' 26-game winning streak, the second longest in Division II at the time. The team took the loss hard, and fans wondered what happened.

"Here, I had forgot how to lose, so that really hurt," red-shirt freshman, forward Victor James said. "I couldn't really see it from the aspect of the home games because this is my first year, but as far as just losing, period, it really hurt a lot because I had really forgotten how to lose."

The 'Cats bounced back from their loss to squeak by Pittsburg State University three days later in a 72-70 win in overtime. Parker led the team with 31 points and four assists.

The 'Cats left Truman State University barely slipping out of Pershing Arena with a win. The game saw the return of transfer, junior, guard Bilal Clarence, helped off the bench as a dominant defender. The Denmark native started the season with a wrist injury and missed three games, and injured his foot three games after his return.

● continued page 193



Early in the season Kelvin Parker pushes past Jamaal Hunnicutt of Eastern New Mexico. Parker led the team in steals with four and assists with six against the Greyhounds. photo by Mike Dye



Eyes on the ball, Keanan Weir goes up for a rebound in their 72-63 loss against Washburn. Weir overcame chronic knee problems in past seasons to provide needed support from the bench for the Bearcats. photo by Mike Dye



Huddled together, the Bearcats fire each other up just before tip-off. With a balanced line-up of eight returners and eight newcomers, the 'Cats were able to compete with the best relying heavily on their defense. photo by Mike Dye

Crashing the boards against Pittsburg State's Wes Thorton, Byron Jackson fights for a rebound. His muscle in the paint made Jackson a dominant force for the Bearcats, leading the team in double doubles with six, 10-plus rebound games with nine and total rebounds in the regular season with 217. photo by Mike Dye



An offensive powerhouse, Kelvin Parker goes up for a tough lay-up against Eastern New Mexico. Parker scored 22 points in helping the Bearcats win the championship game of the Ryland Milner Classic 90-92. photo by Mike Dye



Front Row: Andy Peterson, Sky Wilson, Brett Petersen, Victor James, Kelvin Parker, Travis Gardner, Bilal Clarence and Kyle Garner. Back Row: Matt Withers, Keanan Weir, Austin Meyer, Steve Rold, Joe Principe, Brandon Rold, Byron Jackson, Ryan Morley and Jesse Shaw.



DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP

● continued from page 190

"I love it here, this is the best (team) that I have ever been in as a basketball player," Clarence said. "My only complaint is that I've been injured. I came in here with a lot of high expectations for myself."

Clarence's 10 minutes of action didn't amount to much offense, but his defense and relief off the bench gave the 'Cats a little extra push. With 2:38 remaining in the second half, Truman took a one-point lead, but Parker answered back with seven points. Junior guard Sky Wilson solidified the victory with a pair of free throws for 65-63 win.

"Sky has just really stepped up and just been a special guy for us," Tappmeyer said. "He's really complimented Kelvin's game. They both get along very well, and I don't know if we could have found a better match to play along with Kelvin."

At the halfway point of the season, the 'Cats depended on heavy defense and scrappy play to stay in close games. Parker's experience as a four-year starter helped Wilson learn the Bearcats' system, which sent them onto their impressive start.

"I think I can lead vocally, as well as leading by example, and I think the example part is the biggest one," Parker said. "If you put words out there but you can do the actions, that speaks so much louder."

After rolling over Emporia State University, Central Missouri State University and Southwest Baptist University to start the second half of the season, the 'Cats met Central's Mules again Feb. 4. They beat Emporia, Central and Southwest by a total of 34 points, but the Mules were prepared. After 17 lead changes and 14 ties, the No. 2 Bearcats escaped Warrensburg with a 79-75 win and a 19-1 record intact.

But Emporia added another loss as they stomped the 'Cats, winning by 17. The game went into the half tied, but Emporia opened the second half with a 17-0 run. Wilson, played with a sore hamstring, started a Bearcat spurt which brought the 'Cats within eight, but that was the last time the Hornets gap fell below double digits.

The No. 7 Bearcats outscored opponents 155-116 in the next two games. The home crowd fans watched as the 'Cats dismantled Truman and Pittsburg State. Against Pittsburg, Parker became the fifth player in Bearcat history to score more than 1,500 points. As the MIAA's leading scorer averaging 18.7 points per game, he scored 22.

After the two decisive wins, the 'Cats moved up the polls to No. 6 with a 21-2 record. In Topeka, Kan. on Feb. 18 the No. 5 Ichabods turned up the heat on the Bearcats. Washburn went on a 28-5 run between the end of the first and beginning of the second half. In the second, Meyer sparked the Bearcat offense, but the closest they would get would be within 11, and they lost by 21.

In their next outing against Missouri Southern State University, the 'Cats picked up Tappmeyer's 300th win as the Bearcats' coach. They won by 12 points and it was the first time they scored more than 90 points since Nov. 29. Five Bearcats scored in double figures, paced by Wilson and junior forward Byron Jackson, who both scored 18.

"I think of it more as I was involved in 300 wins," Tappmeyer said. "It's just gives you the ability to reflect back on all the people who were a part of those 300 wins, players, coaches, trainers, fans and media. There's just so many great people and so many great memories. It's not so much a personal accomplishment. It's a team game, I've just been here a long time."

Tappmeyer's 300th win and arch rival Western in the house at Bearcat Arena on Feb. 25, set the stage for senior night. As the 'Cats honored four seniors, they dispensed of the Griffons thoroughly. With the score being tied at 24-24, Weir hit a three-pointer and Western never saw a lead or tie again. Shaw came off the bench to rack up 17 points to give the Bearcats a 23-point victory.

"It says a lot for the unselfishness of our team," Tappmeyer said. "We've got guys on this team that could be playing for some teams and playing 30 minutes a game. They get 10 minutes here and there for this team, but they give us a good 10 minutes and when they're time comes to play more they're ready."

The team's leader, Parker showed his modesty in the final minutes of the game. Despite protests from his star point guard, Tappmeyer took Parker out alone because he wanted him to get the recognition he deserved. As he walked slowly off the court for the last time in Bearcat Arena to chants of "Thank you Kelvin," Parker smiled and hugged his coach.

"Kelvin Parker's meant so much to not only to this team but the four years he's been in the program," Tappmeyer said. "When he leaves this year, his fingerprints will be on this team next year and five years from now from what he's brought. He's established himself as quite possibly the best player to ever play here, and a guy that did it by being unselfish and busting his butt everyday in practice."

After a short time out, junior forward Brian Jackson touches the cross of his father's name on his left shoulder to help him focus. Jackson's father placed away during his senior year of high school. photo by Mike Dye



Routine superstitions

Bearcat men prepare with nightly rituals.

by trevor hayes

A buzzer sounded. A tall man sauntered back onto the court, lightly touching his right shoulder, his left wrist, then kissing his hand and pointing to the sky.

The tattoos he touched, reminders of his mother who lived in Arizona and his father who passed away his senior year of high school, helped him focus.

"It just makes me think about them, throughout the game," junior, forward Byron Jackson said. "It just helps me relax a little bit, take my mind off the game so I won't be too stressed out there."

The men's basketball team's rituals covered everything. Junior, guard Sky Wilson drank one-third cup of honey before games.

"People thought I was crazy," Wilson said. "I was guzzling straight out of the honey bottle. People almost threw up."

Wilson learned about the quick energy boost from his father who played basketball.

"I just started doing it, and I offered it to my teammates, and they took it," Wilson said. "It just kind of started like that. I don't think everybody on the team does it, but a lot of people do. A couple guys have their own jars now, so it's kind of funny."

Many players had superstitions or routines they partook in regularly. Senior guard Kelvin Parker wore the same undershirt for every game he played. Along with Jackson's tattoos, he also wore one white sock and one black sock.

"Everybody has their own little thing that we do," Wilson said. "I know Coach does. After we lost, he said he got his hair cut."

Men's coach Steve Tappmeyer said he had too many superstitions to count. He had his towel, a

note in his billfold from his wife and a money clip given to him for 200 wins.

"I really don't get into theirs. I try to keep mine to a minimum," Tappmeyer said. "I've probably got like 20 more, but they get to be an obsession when you get too many."

Tappmeyer didn't necessarily believe in luck, but superstitions were more like routines. They were things he'd always done or had.

"I've had that towel for years, and if we're winning games, then that towel doesn't get washed," he said. "I just have it at home games. It doesn't go on the road. It's getting pretty thin. I don't know how much longer it's going to last."

Tappmeyer understood his players' superstitions helped them focus on the game.

"It helps them to say 'I do something everyday that is kind of part of a routine that leads into a game, and I'm not taking the game for granted,'" he said. "If they do the honey before the game, it may not physically help them as much as it's just 'Hey, I've done it before, and it's part of my routine, and I'm going to stick with it.'"

Part of the team's routine the night before a game included a small get-together at Parker's house. Parker and the veterans taught the large group of newcomers about their next opponent and how to play against them.

"It's really making it like a family instead of a team," Jackson said. "That's how everybody looks at it."

To strengthen unity, they huddled before free throws to discuss strategy. On defense, they slapped the court to get adrenaline flowing.

"Everyone slaps the ground all at the same time knowing that we're all on the same page," Jackson said. "That just shows the offense that

we're ready to play defense, and that they're not going to score."

Whether all of the team's superstitions helped them or not, Wilson didn't know.

"It could be just a mental thing," Wilson said. "If you notice it, then it obviously can have an affect on your game."

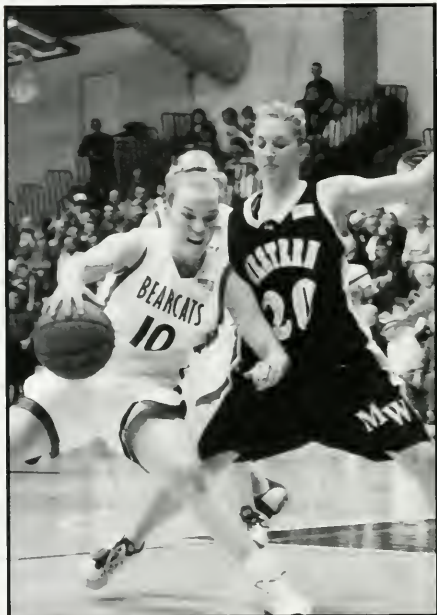
Tappmeyer's wife questioned his superstitions as opposed to his faith. A large part of the 'Cats routine included a prayer before every game.

"Your superstitions don't really mean that much," he said. "But still, if you do them one time and it worked, you're not going to take any chances, and you're going to keep doing it."



With his green towel draped over his shoulder, men's head coach Steve Tappmeyer questions a call made by MIAA referee Will Lynde. Tappmeyer's green towel never went with him to road games, but at home, it wasn't washed if the team won. photo by Mike Dye

On senior night, Jane Chalmers swats the ball away from Missouri Western's Danielle McKinley. Chalmers had seven assists on the night and provided the game winning free throws. photo by Mike Dye



Just inside the three-point line, Laura Friederich drives hard toward the paint. Friederich played 33 minutes and scored 12 points off the bench in the Bearcats 67-66 win against Missouri Western. Friederich led the team with 317 points and played in all 27 games of the regular season. photo by Mike Dye



DEFENSIVE DOMINANCE

'Cats win first championship

by Trevor Hayes

For the first time ever the women's basketball team won the MIAA Tournament Championship and for the first time in 20 years, they broke the top 25.

In only his second winning season as head coach, Gene Steinmeyer steered his 'Cats to the forefront of the MIAA and Division II. They broke into the National Basketball Coaches' Association Division II Poll at No. 22 with a 14-3 record Jan. 27.

"That was one of the goals, then all of a sudden, recruits start to notice you, other coaches start to notice you," Steinmeyer said. "It's very hard to break the top 25, and now, we just want to stay there a while."

Going into the post-season tournament, the Bearcats held the third seed. After breezing by Central and Washburn, the Bearcats headed into the championship against Emporia, a team they had lost both regular season games too.

Like their previous two games of the tournament, defense lead the way from the start by scoring the first eight points of the game. A 12-1 run to start the second half pushed the 'Cats to a 76-62 win for the first tournament championship in Bearcat women's basketball history.

"I just don't think that people believed we could compete against the better teams. The big thing was getting my kids to believe it," Steinmeyer said. "Going 1-3 against the top two, it was tough coming into this thing, but we still had a chance to put some point on that board that hadn't been painted on for 20 years."

Heavy defense and strong shooting stood out as their key to winning. They scored more than 80 points in each game at the Ryland Milner Classic to open the season. However, they received their first loss at the hands of No. 6 North Dakota University on Nov. 28, losing by 13 in their first game of the Bemidji State Tournament.

The 'Cats exploded on four of their next five opponents to finish non-conference play. They topped 80 points in each game and hit triple figures twice. They outscored their opponents by 147 points in four wins, and their only loss of the five game offensive explosion came by three points against Augustana College Dec. 13.

The 'Cats opened conference play 7-0 with a win over No. 8 Washburn University. Washburn took a four-point lead with the score at 6-2, but with 15:11 left in the first half junior, forward Ashley Poptanyec put the 'Cats on top.

"When we beat Washburn here, it proved we could play with the upper tier of the league," Steinmeyer said. "That's probably the most important game of the year."

Not until the No. 4 Emporia State University Hornets came to Bearcat Arena Jan. 24 could the 'Cats be stopped. The Hornets held the 'Cats under 60 points for the first time of the season, but like their first 16 games the 'Cats still committed fewer turnovers than their opponents. Despite the loss, the 'Cats became ranked in the next week's poll. After receiving national ranking, the 'Cats showed the Central Missouri State University Jennies why they'd broken the top 25 with a 71-42 win.

"The depth we have this year is amazing," senior guard Jane Chalmers said. "There are players out there that ride the bench the whole time, and they don't get to play, but they are a huge part of this team. People who don't see practice don't get to see the whole team, but we know, the people who are important know who the real team is."

The 'Cats peaked at No. 17, but finished the regular season at No. 22. They played the No. 2 Hornets Feb. 2 and lost by 21 points. The women stuffed their next two opponents holding Truman State University to 61 points and Pittsburg State University to 54. Even with back-to-back losses against No. 13 Washburn and Missouri Southern State University, they held the Lady Blues to only 66 points and the Lions to 60 in two close games.

Scores & statistics

Southwest Baptist University	80-68, 72-70
University of Missouri-Rolla	64-47, 92-70
Missouri Western State College	69-53, 67-66 OT
Missouri Southern University	72-55, 59-60
Washburn University	67-59, 66-57
Pittsburg State University	66-62, 78-54
Truman State University	85-68, 8-61
Emporia State University	58-72, 75-96
Central Missouri State University	71-42, 77-52
MIAA	14-4
Overall	21-6
MIAA Championship Tournament	1st

● Head coach Gene Steinmeyer named South Central Regional Coach of the Year ● Senior, center Sarah Vollertsen named to the regular season All-MIAA First Team and the Sonic MIAA Championship Tournament MVP ● Senior, guard Jane Chalmers earned All-MIAA First Team honors for the tournament and a regular season honorable mention ● Senior, guard Erica Hatterman named to the MIAA All-Defensive Team



Front Row: Traci Eggers, Corey Van Dine, Jane Chalmers, Emily Elkin and Meghan Blay Row 2: Ashley Poptanyec, Katie Scherer, Erica Hatterman, Tanasha Fields and Laura Friederich Back Row: Lia Bailey, Ashley Freerksen, Jenna Wolfe, Sarah Vollertsen, Brooke Hogue and April Miller

Adolescent admirer

Coaches' son makes ties with university

by trevor hayes

The crowd erupted as the Lady Bearcats ran onto the floor for warm ups. Women's basketball head coach Gene Steinmeyer sat on the bench, with his son on his lap.

"I like to watch Bobby (Bearcat) and my dad coach," Sam said.

Sam's silence while watching from his father's lap would normally be uncommon. Gene said, growing up as the coaches' son prompted Sam to be one of the most talkative and outgoing kids he had ever seen.

"He's acknowledged around campus more than most 5-year-olds, I think," Gene said. "He's going to have way too much knowledge of college life before he gets to college."

Sam had a string of connections to the university. His mother Michele Steinmeyer served as the Athletics office manager and he attended preschool at Horace Mann. With his ties, Sam became very close to the people around his parents.

"We all know Michele and Sammy really well," senior center Sarah Vollertson said. "Sam is in and out of practice, and they've traveled with us on some of our road games, so we've all gotten to be pretty close to Sam and Michele both."

Relationships forged between Gene's family and the basketball team. "Our team is a family and all three of them are a part of our family," senior, forward Katie Scherer said. "It will be interesting to see how he grows, because when we came in here, he was just 1 or 2 years old, so we've seen him grow up a little bit."

According to Gene and Sam, Vollertson and Scherer were Sam's favorite players.

"We go over there for dinners every once in a while," Scherer said. "I'm the one wrestling with him on the floor or playing Power Rangers."

Vollertson attributed the extra time she spent with Sam as the reason for being one of his favorites.

"He'll color me pictures," she said. "And on the busses, he'll always want to come back and sit with the girls. We'll give him a hard time and tickle him."

Constantly surrounded by his parents' colleagues in the university athletics department, Sam made ties with more than just Gene's players. Sam loved men's basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer.

"He gives me a lot of presents, candy and suckers," Sam said. "I go to his office because he has suckers."

Gene knew a stronger bond existed beyond Tappmeyer's jar of suckers. If Tappmeyer appeared on TV, Sam glued himself to the set and said "There's my huddy," as Tappmeyer's image moved on the screen.

"As much as he likes those players, if you lined up the players and myself and Steve Tappmeyer all in a line, he'd run to Steve every time," Gene said. "Tapp loves little kids and Sam loves Tapp."

Tappmeyer and Sam formed a special camaraderie, but Sam also formed friendships with the women's assistant coaches. According to Michele, Gene's staff dominated Sam's birthday parties.

"His best birthday presents have been the presents from my assistant coaches," Gene said. "Right now, I don't think he knows he can invite his little friends to his birthday parties. All you know is that your assistant coaches are going to show up."

Gene believed in the importance of a close family, but since his job demanded much of his time, he made his family a part of the team.

"We chose pretty late in life to have a son, and we don't want the separation that college coaching can bring to a family," Gene said. "We want to try to avoid the separation as much as we can."

Before a women's basketball game, five-year-old Sam Steinmeyer watches warm ups with men's basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer. Tappmeyer maintained a close relationship with the Steinmeyer family. photo by Trevor Hayes



EMULATED PERSEVERANCE

Women struggle as men push through

by Trevor Hayes

One team left the blocks strong, while the other struggled to combat inexperience and injury.

While the women's team had a few individuals shine through their youth and health problems, the Bearcat men improved weekly. They broke into the men's NCAA Division II Track & Field Power Ranking on Feb. 11 at No. 4 after being unranked for the first half of the season.

"The kids are improving on a regular basis," head men's coach Richard Alsup said. "I credit a lot of that to the assistant coaches that are working with their various (events)."

Student and graduate assistants helped Alsup and head women's coach Vicki Wooton reach each athlete on a more individual basis.

"It's not like they just are coaching you from afar and they don't really know what you're doing," junior Keelin Baine said. "They understand all of us which helps out a lot."

During meets, assistant coaches watched and helped tweak athletes' approaches and technique. Assistants' help showed in the season opener.

Both the teams competed hard in the Iowa State University Holiday Open Dec. 12. Thrower Daniel McKim placed second and third in shot put and weight throw, provisionally qualifying for nationals in both events. Also distance runner Jamison Phillips, mid-distance runner Eric Isley and hurdler/sprinter Joel Terry turned in top-three finishes in the 3,000-meter, the mile and the 60-meter hurdles.

The women were lead by thrower Mary Wirt and jumper Gara Lacy who provisionally qualified for nationals in the weight throw and turned in two, fourth place finishes in the long and triple jumps respectively.

Coming off a solid start at their first meet, the Bearcats improved after winter break. At the Graceland Invitational Jan. 17, the women took first in six of 12 events. Wirt increased her qualifying mark, and sprinter Alisha Samuel took first in both the 55-meter and 200-meter dashes and provisionally qualified in the 55-meter.

The men cleaned up at Graceland with championships in nine of 13 events. McKim won both the shot put and weight throw. He increased the marks he set at Iowa State and broke his school record by almost 2 feet with a throw of 60 feet 4.5 inches, becoming the first athlete in university history to throw more than 60 feet indoors.

"It's a great feeling to know that it was my record, and I keep breaking it," McKim said. "It was great the first time, and each time after has just been even sweeter."

The next week Isley and sprinter Gabriel Helms provisionally qualified for nationals at the Nebraska/Holiday Inn Invitational in Lincoln. Isley finished third in the 800-meter with a time of 1:53.51. While Helms took fifth in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.86 seconds to add to his provisional qualification mark in the 55-meter from the week before.

Alsup credited the track in Lincoln for part of their strong showing. Alsup said it was one of the nicest indoor facilities in the nation, and the teams ran on it again in February.

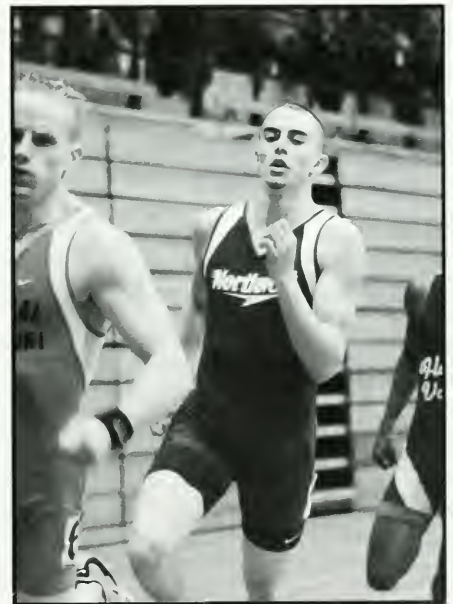


Early on Betsy Lee sets the tone for her race. After an entire year of training from cross country to the indoor Lee had logged quite a few miles. photo by Mike Dye



A step ahead of Jamison Phillips, Drew Wilson tries to keep his lead at the CMSU Classic. Phillips beat Wilson in the mile with a 4:27.65. photo by Mike Dye

In the heart of the pack Tyler Martin waits to make his move in the 400-meter at the CMSU Classic. Martin took seventh with a time of 50.54. photo by Mike Dye



Front Row: Heather Searls, Kara Poehlman, Jessica Montesino, Gara Lacy, Kaitlea Cook, Ashley Stanard and Patsy Lee Row 2: Ashley Grosse, Dia McKee, Jillian Dode, Erin Reed, Keelin Bane, Megan Robinson and Nicole Fillion Row 3: Julie Tockben, Kim Homan, Heather Brokaw, Ashley Nally, Alisha Samuel, Abby Disselhoff and Brandi Honeywell Back Row: Lacey Jackson, Steph Sunken, Mary Wirt, Katie Scherer and Ashley Popartvaz



Front Row: Matt Schneider, Matt Weeder, La: Marquart, Brent Clifton, Marcus Muhs, Drew Wilson, Anthony Jackson and Diezeas Calbert Row 2: Adam Miller, Loyd Heaton III, Daniel James, Dallas Flynn, Mark Aubrey, Bradley Trede and Ronald Anselmo Row 3: Pete Panaccia, Brandon Schoen, Eric Isley, A.J. Roth, Cole Morrison, Bryan Tounney and Matt Pohren Row 4: Jeff Shipley, E.J. Falkner, Tyler Martin, Clif McIntosh, Jerod Smith, Jamison Phillips and Aaron Rice Back Row: Travis Brownly, Gabriel Helms, Joel Terry, Daniel McKim, Patrick Sasser, Matt Klamm and Isaac Lopez

EMULATED PERSEVERANCE

● continued from 200



In mid spin, Daniel McKim concentrates on his form and technique before launching his shot put at the CMSU Classic. McKim believed throwing was the most technical event in track and field. photo by Mike Dye

At a smaller meet, on Jan. 31, both teams made their presence known. The women took third at the Nebraska Wesleyan Invitational with Samuel earning two of the women's six events in the 55-meter and the 200-meter. She beat out sprinter Kailea Cook who took second by .10 seconds. Lacy took second in the 200-meter and first in the long and triple jumps. Distance runner Steph Suntken won the 880-yard run, inching closer to a provisional mark.

The men took second, had six champions and didn't place under fourth in any event. McKim, Helms, the 4 x 440-yard relay team, jumper/sprinter Diezeas Calbert, pole vaulter Clif McIntosh and jumper/sprinter Anthony Jackson all won their events.

The 'Cats lost steam at the Central Missouri State University Mule Relays. Wirt, Helms and Isley took the only championships of the meet, but sprinter E. J. Falukner had a quality day. Just behind Helms, he took third in the 200-meter, and fifth in the 400-meter with a time of 50.06.

After a slow week, both teams returned to Lincoln and stiff competition. Helms lowered his provisional mark, by winning the 60-meter. McKim won the weight throw, and Faulkner performed well in sprints. Suntken took first in the 800-meter, barely missing the mark for nationals.

"We made some big strides this weekend with individuals who seemed to reach a plateau but took the next step and ran a little faster," Wooton said.

Both teams showed they were primed and ready for the MIAA Championships a week later at the Central Missouri State University Classic. Suntken finally hit her provisional mark in winning the 800-meter while Wirt took the women's other first place in the weight throw.

McKim placed first in the weight throw as the only champion for the men. Helms missed the meet, giving Faulkner a chance to test himself, and placed fourth in the 60-meter dash. Jumper/sprinter Pat Jordan placed second but provisionally qualified for the high jump with a height of 6 feet 9 inches.

Under Alsop, Wooton and their assistants' guidance, the teams continued to excel at the MIAA Championships. The men took third in a tight race with Central, and Missouri Southern State University, while the women ended the season with a sixth place standing. Falkner and McIntosh set the only provisional marks of the meet.

"Basically we have a good core of athletes," Wooton said. "As long as we can keep them healthy and on track, I would say the future looks bright."

Just slightly touching the bar, Aaron Rice tries to squeeze over the 6 feet 1 inch bar in the high jump. Rice struggled some in dealing with the transition between high school and his first year on the track squad. photo by Trevor Heyas



Scores statistics

Men

ISU Holiday Classic	1st
Graceland Invitational	1st
UNL Holiday Inn Invitational	4th
Nebraska Wesleyan	2nd
CMSU Relays	2nd
Parle Wolf Invitational	2nd
MIAA Championships	3rd

Women

Nebraska Wesleyan	3rd
MIAA Championships	6th

•Daniel McKim broke his school record in the weight throw with a 60'4.5" toss at Graceland. McKim led the men in individual points in the regular season, followed by Gabreil Helms and E. J. Faulkner.

Provisional Qualifiers:

Daniel McKim – shot put, weight throw

Pat Jordan – high jump

Clif McIntosh – pole vault

Gabreil Helms – 55-meter, 60-meter

E.J. Faulkner – 400-meter

Eric Isley – 800-meter

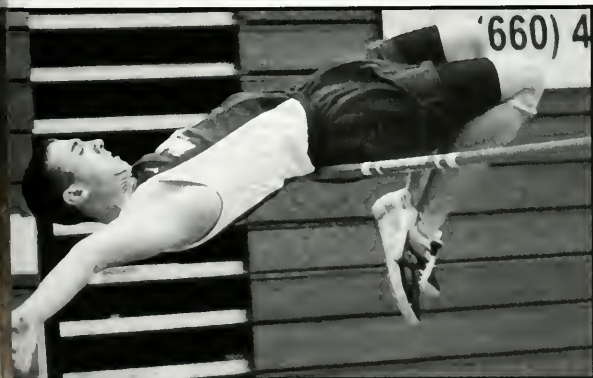
Mary Wirt – weight throw

Alisha Samuel – 55-meter, 60-meter, 200-meter

Kailea Cook – 60-meter

Steph Suntken – 800-meter

Before turning on the heat, Alisha Samuel starts to make her eventual move to beat every runner on the track by at least one second. Samuel dominated her competition in the 60-meter through the entire season, and placed as high as sixth on the national ranking for the event. *photo by Mike Dye*



Perfectly clearing a hurdle in the 60-meter hurdles, Joel Terry works to keep pace with the competition. Terry finished fourth at the CMSU Classic with a time of 8.33 seconds. *photo by Mike Dye*

Objective judgment

MIAA referees enjoy their taxing job.

by trevor hayes

A shrill whistle broke through the roar of Bearcat Arena, play stopped and the crowd immediately exploded on the men wearing stripes.

Greg Harrison ignored the yells. He pointed to the Bearcat who caused the foul and quickly ran to the scorer's table to signal the call. As he sprinted away, the crowd yelled louder with disgust, but Harrison calmly went about his business.

"There is an old saying amongst old referees," Harrison said. "You've got to love it when they boo. And if you don't love it when they boo, then you'd better find another avocation because you aren't going to make it far in this one."

MIAA referees endured malice every night. Almost every call had an objection from opposing sides, but the only people he listened to were coaches.

"If you're working a gym and there are 20 people in it and you've got some leather-lung sitting up there commenting on every call, then you hear that person and that gets a little old, but we have ways of taking care of that," Harrison said.

After 24 years, Harrison knew the ropes. He'd kicked-out unruly fans and penalized teams with technical fouls. He'd broken up fights and butted heads with the toughest coaches, but even veterans like Harrison made errors.

"Not many," he said with a smile. "Not very many at all."

Despite catching flack from players, fans and hot-headed coaches for missing calls, Harrison loved his job.

"It's mostly about the guys you work with and working the games and getting some satisfaction out of the job you do," Harrison said.

Mays also thrived on the adrenaline of calling a game. As teams moved into conference play, the intensity grew.

"They're playing for seedings in the conference to see who's going to be seeded higher in the tournament," Mays said. "Everything bares more weight the last two or three weeks. Every night just has a little more meaning."

Along with the rush from added pressure and intensity, refereeing could be an escape for them. Mays worked as a ranch foreman, and Harrison made a living as a lawyer.

MIAA referee Gordan Katz thought the same way about leaving his life behind for a few hours.

"We get here and the minute I walk in here, it's a release," Katz said. "There's a game, and now, the excitement starts. This is conference season. I know we're going to have a hell of a ball game up there tonight, and we're going to work our tails off."

With highs came exhausting lows that dragged them down.

"Your adrenaline keeps you up for the physical and the mental all the way (through the game)," Katz said. "Halfway home that adrenaline will be gone, and I think it's the mental part that goes first."

Refereeing pained them. While maintaining regular job, they lost sleep, ached from sore muscles and traveled close to five days a week.

"Mentally, it's pretty taxing," Harrison said. "It's hard not to have a short temper because we're tired. (The players) don't play for three or four days, but we've got to work again tomorrow."

The constant grind of the job turned several people away from it. According to Mays, not everyone who tried refereeing could handle what came with the job.

"Just because you played the game doesn't mean you can referee the game and handle everybody," Mays said.

For the men behind the stripes, refereeing meant an escape, a release, a form of

camaraderie and a chance to give back.

"We're not here to control the game," Harrison said. "It's the kids' game. It's not for us. It's not for the coaches. The kids are going to play the game, and we've got to administer and make sure, hopefully, nobody gets hurt, and the game is played fairly."



MIAA referee Jeff Mays signals the call he made to the scorer's table. Mays said he reached the highest point in his refereeing career in 2004. photo by Mike Dye

At half court, MIAA referees Larry Smith, Greg Harrison and Will Lynde discuss a call during a time out. MIAA referees usually didn't work with the same people more than once in a season. photo by Mike Dye



Barriers broken

Newcomers make name for themselves

by trevor hayes

They shared a driving force, and a need to compete and perform well for their team. Although they were adjusting freshmen, three players made an impact on college athletics.

Typically freshmen year of collegiate sports consisted of little playing time and lots of practice. It tended to be a year spent developing skills and concentrating on the future, but some came out of high school and made a difference.

"It's kind of exciting to know that I can come in here and help the team out," freshmen volleyball player Mackenzie Heston said. "It's not expected of freshmen to come in and start their first year."

As an outside hitter Heston earned All-MIAA honorable mention, led the team in blocks and took second in kills and digs. Heston became a team leader after key players were injured.

"With all the injuries, I felt that it's my responsibility to step up," Heston said. "I've always been like that. I expected other teammates to feel like they had to step up just as much as me."

Freshman soccer player Beth Gutschenritter also led the team her first year. As a last minute choice, Gutschenritter came to the university and made the team as a walk-on.

"I thought, as a freshman, I'd come in and do whatever I can," she said. "And then, if I did do well, that would set a standard for years to come."

Unsure if she could focus on soccer while transitioning to college and maintaining her grades, Gutschenritter decided to give soccer a chance. Her efforts gave her a new drive to play.

Once she learned to balance her college life, she started playing more effectively on the field. Gutschenritter's hard work earned her a spot on the All-MIAA second team. As a midfielder she led the team in goals and shots.

Gutschenritter felt that her success helped start the soccer teams rebuilding effort.

Both soccer and volleyball began rebuilding with new coaches and young teams, so Heston and Gutschenritter made an impact in a large way. But with stronger programs, freshmen making large contributions were uncommon.

Freshman kicker Cory Paetznick left his mark on the football team. He joined the 'Cats as a walk-on but suffered a hip injury. After recovering, he earned his first start against Emporia State University. His performance sealed his position for the remainder of the season.

"You start out low, and you have to prove yourself," he said. "I proved myself when I first got here, and then I got the injury, and I didn't know what to think. I was kind of down on myself. But then I proved myself over and over again until Emporia, and then, Coach called me in."

Paetznick became the second leading scorer. He handled kickoffs and made 12 of 16 field goals, for 75 percent with a long of 47 yards.

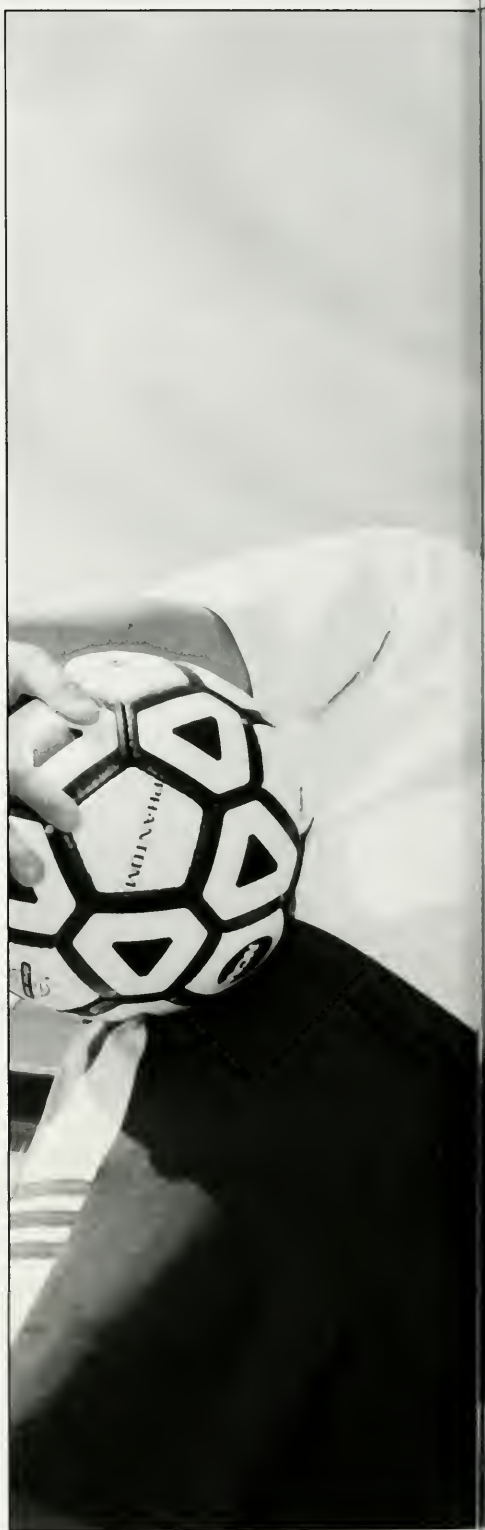
"It feels good," he said. "But it doesn't matter if I'm the second lowest or second highest, just as long as I'm helping out the team."

When Paetznick tried out, he expected to get the starting job, even though the team red-shirted most incoming freshmen. Red-shirted players wouldn't see any playing time. They received an extra year of eligibility enabling them to practice and develop.

Freshmen starters shared a drive to succeed. They believed they had a purpose, they couldn't fulfill on the bench. They wanted to leave their mark, and impact their team.

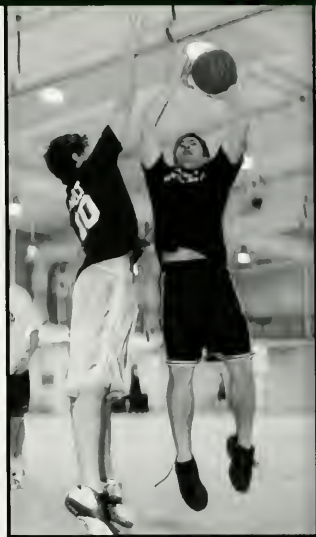
"I come from an athletic family, and it's always been in my nature," Heston said. "I don't say a lot, but I try to make my actions be leading to others."

Beth Gutschenritter, Cory Paetznick and Mackenzie Heston all made considerable differences for their collegiate teams. Gutschenritter and Paetznick were both walk-on freshmen. photo by Mike Dye





Cameron Cloverdyke jumps over Chris Holt at the intramural basketball competition held in the rec center. Students who are interested in playing sports, but lack the skill or experience to join Northwest teams compete against each other in many sports. *photo by Mike Dye*



Jeff Dahm, Phi Sigma Kappa, is playing singles' tennis for intermural sports. Jeff attends Northwest as a business management major. *photo by Mike Dye*



Alpha Sigma Alpha, Holly Grete, plays intramural ping-pong for recreational use. Ping-pong is one of the many intramurals set aside for student participation. photo by Mike Dye



Competition points to friendship

Athletics brings students together

by trevor hayes

A competitive spirit and out-lit for fun attracted athletes such as the Thunder Chickens to intramural sports.

The athletes didn't receive scholarships or media attention, because instead of playing at a competitive level, they played for themselves.

"I think a lot of people actually go into intramurals to prove something to themselves that they have the talent," Jonathan McClain said. "Even though they're not doing the varsity sport, they're still trying to say that 'We're awesome.'"

McClain may not have played, but he refereed the sports, found what most intramural athletes looked for, fun and friendship.

Relationships were a big part of why hundreds of students participated in the intramural leagues each year. Most teams were formed between friends or campus organizations.

Adam Espey's team started differently though. After going to the Rec. Center to play basketball everyday during the fall, he eventually met others while shooting hoops. When entries for independent teams were due, they formed a team, and their bond

strengthened beyond basketball over the season. The team's preparation and skill level made them into one of the more competitive teams in the independent league.

"There are some teams that enter just to try and mess around and make other teams mad," Espey said. "Then, there are some teams that enter to win. We want to win, but we like to play for fun too."

Twenty-four different events were offered throughout the year, ranging between individual sports like tennis, howling and track to team activities like flag football, basketball and tug-of-war. Each sport separated sexes, and team sports separated between Greeks and independents.

Sigma Kappa Laura Fowler played football, basketball and bowled for her sorority. Fowler saw intramural sports as a chance to bond with her sister and compete while in college.

"It gives me something to do and look forward to," Fowler said. "If you're just sitting around, then you have something to do at night."

Fowler and Espey both played sports in high school, but neither played a varsity sport on-campus. Both saw themselves as very competitive people, so on top of giving them something to do, intramurals served as a way to let them relive their earlier experiences.

The rewards were not monumental, but among intramural athletes, championship T-shirts became highly coveted.

"It gives you a way that if you didn't go out for a varsity sport at the college level, then you can still have fun playing the sports you like," Fowler said.

Delta Chi member Dave Burrows tries to rip a flag off of Phi Sigma Kappa member Zac Hull during a flag football game held at the Rickenbrode football stadium. "It was a thrill to play in the finals and across from the Phi Sig house; they were able to shoot the cannon off when we scored," said Hull.

photo by Mike Dye

LOVE ON BOTH SIDES

Men and women travel together to nationals for the first time ever.

by Trevor Hayes

Tennis made history in 2003. The teams will always be remembered as the first.

The Bearcats made MIAA history by winning regionals, and making it to nationals. Both the men and women's teams accomplished the task and secured their place in the record books.

"I was very proud that both teams went," head coach Mark Rosewell said. "Usually we've got a really good men's team or we've got a good women's team. It's an exception that both are that good."

At nationals, the Bearcats didn't fair as well. Bloomberg, Pa. eliminated the men in the first round, but the women broke the round of eight before being ousted by Barry, Fla. The women went 5-0 against Barry, with their top two doubles teams losing, and Raven Herner and Jan Pendrak also falling.

"It is an individual sport," Pendrak said. "But if you lose you feel like you're letting your team down. I hate that more than anything."

The Bearcats didn't have to deal with losing much throughout the season. The men's team went 21-9 with an MIAA record of 4-1, while the ladies went 24-10 with a 5-1 MIAA record.

"We wanted to have a good national ranking, so we were playing people who were nationally ranked," Gorka Sanchez said. "We knew we had to do good to get a better national ranking. And we did beat some teams who were ranked pretty well nationally, so our coach was very happy."

The Bearcats played tough competition all season long. Along with playing nationally ranked teams, they played some Division I schools, including a win against Austin Peay State University in Tennessee coached by a former Northwest graduate.

"That was coached by a legendary coach, Brian Surface," Rosewell said. "You don't beat that guy too many times, and he didn't like it either."

The experience gained from playing and solidly beating a Division I school was important for the Bearcats.

"They weren't as scary as I thought they were going to be," Pendrak said. "It was really fun because you almost felt like a big leaguer. It was a lot of fun and a good experience."

According to Pendrak, the team also played smaller schools, even if their programs weren't as good. For the men and women of the team competing in different situations was key.

"Every match is important because you gain experience just playing different types of people, and the more you play the better you'll be," Pendrak said. "They're like building blocks for each other. That's why coach has us play so much, so we'll be match tough and match ready."

According to Sanchez, playing regularly and being consistent could be hard, no matter what the skill level of his opponent was.

"You have to keep playing and be regular every day," he said. "Play your tennis every day, know what you're doing on the court."

Consistent practicing and being on the road together gave the team a lot of time to spend with each other. Both the men and women's teams became close over the course of the long season.

● continued 212



Jan Pendrak returns a serve from Northern Colorado University. Pendrak, a senior at Northwest, always admired players such as Pete Sampras and Steffi Graf, which inspired her to continue playing herself. photo by Theresa Chivins



Sprinting to make his racket meet the ball, J.J. Mulwanda attempts to return a serve. Mulwanda played for the Bearcats during the 2002-2003 season.
photo by Matt Frye



Playing off a hard return from a Metro State player in the ITA Championships, Sara Lipura crouches to successfully drive the ball back over the net. *photo by Theresa Chioami*

“

Every match is important because you
gain experience just playing different
types of people.

Jan Pendrak

”

LOVE ON BOTH SIDES

● continued from 210

"We're pretty much a big family," Pendrak said. "You know that if you ever got into it with anybody, the guys would have your back at any of the matches if you ever got heckled or something, and vice versa."

Being close to teammates gave everyone extra support.

"We're our own best cheerleaders," Pendrak said. "If you get done with your match and someone else is still playing, everyone goes and cheers for them and supports them. I think we're probably one of the closest teams."

That unity paid off when as the Bearcats moved through regionals and into nationals. "It was a big deal because we feed off each other," Pendrak said. "To have them supporting us, it was nice to have somebody who understood what you'd been through."

For some of the players at the beginning of the season, tennis was their only link to the rest of the team. A total of seven out the 16 players were from different countries.

"Despite everyone's diverse background we all really clicked because we always had tennis to come back to," Pendrak said.

Having tennis helped the team start to form their bonds and learn about each other. Some players even picked up a second language.

"You get to see different cultures, different languages," Sanchez said. "It's always fun to go on trips with people from different countries. On one side you might have people talking in Spanish, on another you might have people talking in English, just different languages. It's always fun."

The team was able to become so close through countless hours spent in the team van. Because they played so many other schools, the Bearcats logged a lot of mileage.

"It's just chaotic," Pendrak said. "You load all this stuff up into the van, and you just go off. It's a lot of fun, and a lot of interesting topics. Nothing is left untouched in the van."

Although traveling had its perks, it really paid off to be able to play regionals at home.

"That cuts out a lot of stress of driving forever," Pendrak said. "We also had home court advantage. That's always nice to have courts you've played on, everything's familiar."

In regionals the home court advantage helped the men and women square off against their biggest rivals of the tournament. The men met Metropolitan State from Colorado, while the women saw action against Washburn.

"I think the most important match of our season was the finals here against Metro State because we knew they were our biggest rivals," Sanchez said. "It helped us a lot that we had to play our finals here in Maryville at home. We knew it was going to be really close; it was going to come down to one or two matches, but everybody played really good, and we pulled through."

The men made it downing Metro five matches to three. The women won their regional championship against Washburn five to one in a rematch of the MIAA title.

Both teams earned a berth into nationals for their play on the conference and then regional levels.

"Regionals was like a pressure cooker," Pendrak said. "It's really intense, because if we didn't win that, we were done. You didn't almost want to think about it, but at the same time that's all you thought about. Once we won that it was like this huge weight was lifted, because just going was our goal. The National trip was just like a treat."

The Bearcat's hard efforts through the season paid off with MIAA's awards. They had four players on first team, seven on second team and five received honorable mentions.

"Last season was the best way I could have ended my college career," senior and All-MIAA second team member Jarrod Smith said.

The team had made history and tasted nationals, but wanted more. The women wanted to extend their conference championships, and the Bearcats wanted to sink their teeth deeper into the nationals bracket.

"We really believe we can do it again," Pendrak said. "We know we can, and I think everyone will be working even harder."

While playing a match against Northern Colorado, Danielle Cartier connects with the ball, creating a challenging return for her opponent. During the ITA Championships, Cartier went 1-1 in singles and 0-1 in doubles. photo by Theresa Chotina



Stopping up short, John Sanchez reassesses his racket position mid-step in a beat-at tennis match. Sanchez competed with the Northwest team during the 2002-2003 season. photo by Matt Frye



Front Row: Rosa Tapia, Gena Lindsey, Danielle Cartier, Sara Lipira Back Row: Assistant coach Richie Marsh, Adrianna Hernandez, Raven Herner, Jan Pendrak, Nicole Berger, assistant coach Sanjeev Kumar, coach Mark Rosewell

Scores statistics

Men

Emperla	8-0
Truman	8-1
Southwest Baptist	2-7
Washburn	5-3
Southwest Baptist	1-5
Regionals	
Colorado-Colorado Springs	5-1
Metro State (Colo.)	5-3
Nationals	
Bloomsburg (Pa.)	0-5

Women

Emperla	8-3
Truman	5-6, 5-4
Southwest Baptist	0-1
Missouri Western	5-0
Washburn	5-0
Regionals	
North Dakota	5-1
Washburn	5-1
Nationals	
Slippery Rock (Pa.)	5-2
Barry (Fla.)	2-5

● Rosewell (608 wins) collects 600th collegiate coaching win beating Washburn men 5-3 during MIAA Championships ● First time both men and women won regionals



Front Row: Gorka Sanchez, Jarrod Smith, Jon Sanchez, coach Mark Rosewell Back Row: Assistant coach Richie Marsh, Derek Kedigh, Lander Panera, J.J. Mulwanda, Zach Keith, Alen Horvat, assistant coach Sanjeev Kumar

SLUGGERS TRIUMPH

Best season since '89

by Trevor Hayes

From the first moment they stepped on the diamond, the 'Cats had big expectations and high hopes.

The 'Cats won 36 games and appeared in the postseason for the first time since 1989. "I was excited just to get into regionals," pitcher Jeff Rust said. "It was kind of expected though, because everybody knew we had a good team. We had a lot of seniors on the field that had a lot of experience from the year before."

Head coach Darin Loe sat back and watched during practices. His 12 seniors stepped up and provided leadership through example.

"Coach Loe said, 'Okay, this is what we're doing today,' and we just went out and did it in practice, and did it pretty consistently all year on the baseball field," shortstop Willie Ciaramitaro said.

Senior leadership sent the 'Cats on a roll, going 11-4, before hitting their nine game winning streak to finish out March.

"The success we had in March really helped the team to play relaxed," Loe said. "Knowing you have some wins under your belt really helps to take the pressure off heading into conference play."

Seven of the nine wins during the streak came against MIAA opponents, which gave the men confidence against the conference, going 20-8 for the season.

"We knew we had the potential to be a very powerful contender in the MIAA," Loe said.

With the momentum of March behind them, the team started losing power as postseason neared, and the toll of the season began to wear them down.

"The last two weeks of the season, we didn't play well at all," Ciaramitaro said. "We had four wins in two or three weeks, which is not very good at all. I don't know what happened in there. Mentally, something got screwed up."

As the season wound down, the 'Cats fought to stay alive. A big win came late in the season over the MIAA powerhouse, Central Missouri State Mules. The two teams slugged it out for three hours, ending 10-9.

"That's two years in a row now that coach Loe has beaten Central, when they had a 30-something-game winning streak against us," Ciaramitaro said. "That was their last loss of the whole season. They went on from there to win the (regional) World Series. So, we were the last team to beat them, which was nice."

After the close win over the Mules, the Bearcats dropped five of the next seven games, including two games in the double-elimination regional playoffs.

Both losses came to Rockhurst University, but the 'Cats held together until the eighth inning of their last game.

Pitcher Alex Budden held the Mules scoreless for seven innings. Matt Ruff and Michael French provided support with a pair of RBIs, and John Butof aided with a home run.

Moving into the eighth, mental mistakes hurt the team. The 'Cats changed pitchers twice, committed five errors and walked three batters, allowing Rockhurst seven runs. The Hawklets defeated the 'Cats 7-4 crushing championship hopes.

Even though they weren't able to go on to the Championship, the 'Cats earned their first regional berth in 14 years and took second in the MIAA.

"Overall it was a great season," Loe said. "We had 12 seniors graduate, and it's always good to end your career on a high note."

Graduates left behind a hungry Bearcat team with higher hopes for the next season and big shoes to fill.

According to Ciaramitaro, the season 36 wins and second place finish were huge improvements on the past and a building block for their future.



Shortstop Willie Ciaramitaro prepares to bunt for the 'Cats. Ciaramitaro was named to the 2003 All-MIAA Second Team. photo by Darren Whitley

Scores statistics

Missouri Western State College	3-4, 2-0, 0-6, 4-1
Missouri Southern State University	3-4, 5-4
Washburn University	14-3, 6-1, 0-2, 7-6
Pittsburgh State University	3-0, 0-7, 9-4
University of Missouri-Rolla	4-7
Southwest Baptist University	7-1, 0-1, 7-3
Emporia State University	12-5, 4-1, 14-16, 22-7
Truman State University	1-0, 4-3, 9-3, 4-2
Central Missouri State University	10-9, 0-11, 6-14

- David Dugan 380 PO season, 41 chances in season • Willie Ciaramitaro 160 A season • Brett Rust ties shutout record with 3-season



“

We knew we had the
potential to be a very
powerful contender in
the MIAA.
-Coach Darin Loe

”

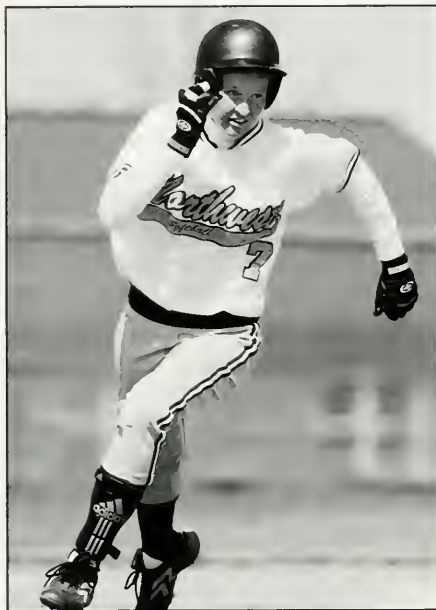
Shortstop Willie Ciaramitaro corals the ball after Michael French nearly stopped the grounder during a game against Fort Hays State University. Ciaramitaro batted an average of .371 during the 2002-2003 season. *photo by Darren Whitley*



Front Row: Mike Ruff, Gerald, Mask, Brett Rust, Brett Jones, Willie Ciaramitaro, Kaleb May, Kenton Klopfenstein Row 2: Dann Loe, Mike Creason, Jeremy Teter, Brian Boley, Edgar Jones, Joe Anderson, John Bothof, John Sipes, Dave Dugan, Matt Johnson Row 3: Drew Erks, Joel Hitsman, Will Mayle, Van Gilmore, Andrew Donovan, Mike French, Will Newland, Matt Rives Row 4: Matt Cruth, Billy Burns, Pat Whitt, Marcus West, JR Servatius, Derek Hill, Alex Budden Back Row: Matt Coons, Kyle Gallagher, Ben McMullen

Battling the University of Missouri-Rolla, John Sipes throws out a runner at first base. With 54 RBIs for the season, Sipes batted an average of .329. *photo by Darren Whitley*

Angie McCoy rounds the bases during one of the team's home games against South Dakota State University. McCoy earned second-team all MIAA honors and has a total batting average of .351. photo by Darren Whitley



Front Row: Kristina Dillon, Kelly Carter, Lindsay Stephenson, Heather Conary, Lindsey Crouse Row 2: Linellis Santiago, Tonja Risetter, Jacqueline Handlos, Tara Risetter, Katy John Back Row: Shelly MacDonald, Ashley Pride, Melissa Nimmo, Angie McCoy, Megan Spring

AGONY AND HONOR

'Coaster' takes new coach for a bumpy ride.

by Trevor Hayes

The season was rocky. It had its ups and some major downs. Between injuries and mental mistakes, the team persevered.

New head coach Susan Punzo and her Bearcats battled uphill from the beginning of the season. The 'Cats lost seven of 12 games in early March, many of which came in the Rebel Spring Games in Kissimmee, Fla.

The 'Cats quickly sprang back from their slow start, winning 16 of 18 games, even though they lost their starting shortstop Melissa Nimmo for the remainder of the season. Nimmo sat out because of a knee injury.

"She was our most vocal, so we had concerns about how the team was going to respond to losing her, but the team responded well," Punzo said. "They stepped up. A lot of different people stepped up in a lot of different games and got the job done."

According to Punzo, second baseman Katy John, shortstop Tara Risetter, catcher Megan Spring and first baseman Ashley Pride filled the void Nimmo left. Risetter moved to shortstop from second base and John, a walk-on freshman, took over at second.

Between the four, the 'Cats received run support. Their support and the brilliant pitching from Shelly MacDonald, (13-12, 2.80 ERA) and Jacqueline Handlos, (17-9, 2.49 ERA) made the 'Cats potent.

With new leadership and an offensive drive, they won the championship in the Oklahoma City Capital City Classic.

"We knew we had the talent and just needed to show it," right fielder Kristina Dillon said.

Unfortunately, the momentum did not keep flowing. They dropped two conference games to Emporia State University after the Capital City Classic.

"Everything just went downhill," Dillon said. "The conference games at Emporia State were definitely our lowest rock bottom. It was just like we hit a brick wall."

They only won eight of their last 17 games and went 4-6 against MIAA opponents.

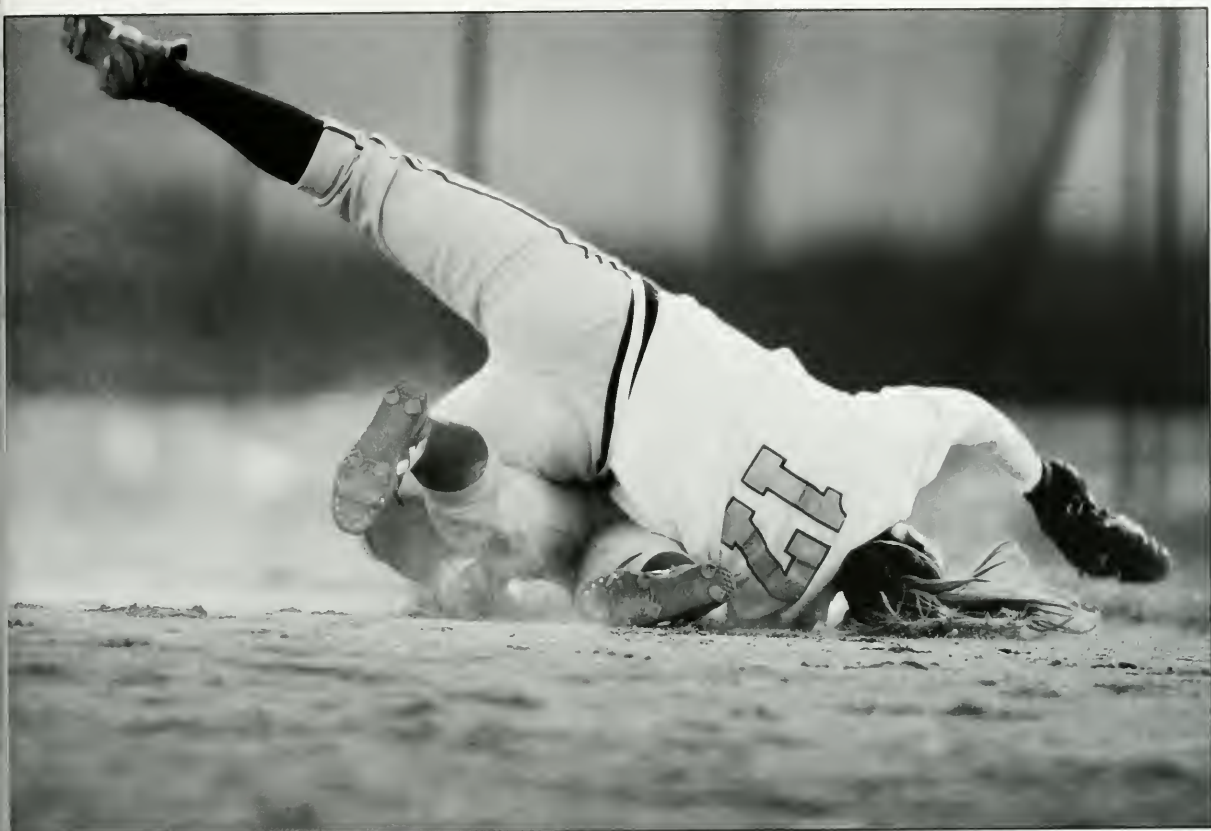
"Every other game, people would step up, but we couldn't take advantage," John said. "It was all mental. I don't think we were on the same page."

The team's skills could not be questioned with two players. Pride and lone senior center fielder, Kelly Carter, made the All-MIAA first team. Three made the second team: Spring, Risetter and left fielder Angie McCoy. MacDonald received honorable mention.

"All of us together, we have great athletic ability, great skill and have our minds set on what we want—that we all want to be great in our own little way," John said. "We just had to learn to get there on the same time."

Even though the Bearcats couldn't put everything together, they still went 30-21 on the season and took fourth in the MIAA, a step back from their tie for third place in 2002.

"With the cards we were dealt, it was like, how is this team going to gel?" Punzo said. "But they weren't going to let anything hold them back."



While trying to play a shallow fly ball behind second base, Melissa Nimmo is injured. Nimmo's knee sustained injury after rolling over Tara Risetter, causing her to miss the rest of the season. *photo by Darren Whitley*



In a game against Missouri Southern, Megan Spring jumps forward to catch a fly ball at the plate. Spring, a catcher from Warsaw, Mo., threw out 50 percent of attempted stolen bases during the 2002 season. *photo by Darren Whitley*

Scores statistics

Missouri Southern State University	8-9
Southwest Baptist University	2-1, 6-1, 15-0
University of Missouri - Rolla	3-1, 1-5, 1-0
Missouri Western State College	3-0, 5-2, 5-0, 1-0
Central Missouri State University	1-3, 1-3, 0-2
Emporia State University	1-14, 1-2
Washburn University	5-4, 0-3
Treman State University	8-5, 0-13





Unified in more than 300 organizations on campus, you maintained tradition while moving into the future.

Unity Banding with people of similar interests in social or academic standards aided you in building your resume, and taught you about your field of study outside the classroom.

Alpha Sigma Alpha held a celebration in the fall commemorating their 75th anniversary, while Delta Sigma Theta was reinstated on campus after a 24-year hiatus.

Amnesty International erected a tarp-like wall beside the Bell Tower protesting the Apartheid Wall that separated Israel and Palestine. Controversy arose after the wall was damaged and

Motion

Amnesty members claimed through signs and handbills that vandals had suppressed their freedom of speech.

Debate also surfaced in the spring when Student Senate proposed a \$50 student activities fee said to expand entertainment options.

Alpha Sigma Alpha members cheer as Gamma Chi participants and their new pledges join them on Bid Day. The sorority welcomed 19 pledges after the fall rush process. photo by Mike Dye

102 River Wildlife Club

Front Row: Drew Binner, Nathan Woodland, Jessica Sylvey, Sean Counihan and David Farmer. Row 2: Callie Coleman, Andrea Estes, Joshua Gray and Levi Jaster. Back Row: Caleb Jeffries and David Easterla.

- >Open to anyone interested in enjoying and preserving the environment
- >Took special interest in conserving the wildlife by trash and pond area clean-up
- >Special interest such as hiking, camping, outdoor photography and birding



Association for Computer Machinery

Front Row: Brian Eye, Lucas Hoge, King Kwan, Grant Howard, Derek Eye, Gary McDonald, Merry McDonald, Virginia Herbert, Rachelle Wright, Christine Miller, Caleb Hufford, Katie Hanson and Sn Siva. Row 2: Dean Sanders, Ernie Ferguson, Brandon Rockhold, Sheena Lloyd, Rebecca Griffin, Amanda Antidel, Kevin Carpenter, Curtis Shaffer, Ryan Hance, Mike Lindvall, Brandon Wright and Gregory M. Smith. Back Row: Nathan Lancaster, David R. Alexander, Brian Kersten, Allen Lode, Corey Swope, Joe Gardner, Andrew Fairhurst, Travis Youmans, Drew Biermann, Jared Kendrick, Phil Heeler, Robert Schukei and Michael Wemhoff.

- >Promoted interest in computers and applications
- >Hosted computer speakers to discuss new applications and job placements
- >Held a computer book sale



Alliance of Black Collegians

Front Row: Ashley Yates, Tiffany Wallace, Nickara Pratt, Sheena Lloyd, Juantensha Christian, April Baerga and Mallory Webster. Row 2: Brent J. Scarbrough, Derick Cunigan, Morgan Conyers, Alisa Stewart, Ben Fuentes, Skakuita Johnson, Tyrone Perkins, Kalee Shewell and Michael Bolton. Back Row: Andres Johnson, Deron Andrews, Virginia Murr, Kenton Poke, Sauda Holman, Brian A. Brooks, John Williams, Marcus Jones and Anthony Firtman.

- >Promoted university awareness of the African-American culture
- >Focused on togetherness and equality
- >Involved with sponsoring Martin Luther King Day, the Soul Food dinner and date auction



Amnesty International and Students for a Free Tibet

Front Row: Elizabeth Sexton, Amy Carr, Jessica Ruvalo, Erica Reynolds, Ryan Hersh, Jennifer Crockiev, Bonnie Bisbee and Ryan Sweeton. Row 2: Christine Campbell, Keith Loeschner, Ryan Cook, Kathryn Jenkins, Amanda Byler, Janelle David and Atsuko Nitsu. Back Row: Joshua Isom, Jonathan Cook, Elizabeth Williams, Alysa Grummert, Allyson Largent, Heather Lafon, Matt Todd and Naoto Nakano.

- >Worked to promote human rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- >Campaigned to protect Human Rights
- >Held a benefit concert in the fall



Christian conglomeration

Weekly fellowship filtered out of a two-story white house sitting on the corner of Fourth and Mulberry streets.

As one of the leading Christian organizations, the Baptist Student Union became a place for students to congregate, worship and retreat from the hassles of everyday life.

According to Campus Minister Jason Yarnell, the BSU helped students in times of need as it helped him at one point in his life.

"My time at Northwest started off rough. My grades were low, and I felt as if I didn't really have a place to turn," Yarnell said. "Personally, the Baptist Student Union led me to Christ and changed my life forever."

Jenny Schell said through her eyes Yarnell became a mentor and role model.

"When Jason came here, he didn't have someone to look up to," Schell said. "But I've been able to watch him grow, in my four years, and see what God has done through him."

Although the organization was small, BSU wasn't restricted to any one religion and welcomed all faiths to attend worship service Thursday evenings, Yarnell said.

"We are here to meet the needs of the students," Yarnell said.

Throughout the year, the BSU offered home cooked meals for \$1 and a Bible study Monday nights. Schell said getting together on a weekly basis offered feelings of home.

"This is like a second family," Schell said. "Coming here has been a home away from home for me these past four years."

The BSU established itself as an organization in 1936 through the First Baptist Church of Maryville. The group branched out to international students and the community.

In the fall, BSU developed the International Outreach to build friendships with international students.

"It's still relevantly new, but it's had some great success," Schell said. "We took 60 some students ice skating, and they had fun."

The BSU enjoyed finding ways to give back to families in need. The group raised more than \$6,000 in food for more than 73 families who couldn't afford a Thanksgiving dinner.

The group also took a mission trip to Smyrna, Tenn. during spring break and worked at an abandon Air Force Base, where they helped refurbish the area for homeless and single mothers in the community.

"You're brought to a place out of your comfort zone and you don't get to see the actual end result, which can be hard," Schell said. "But it's awesome to be a part of that and know you've had your hand in that type of work. It's amazing how God works through you."

Students,
Niki Carder
and Shawn Hess
sing to the Lord
during worship.
"When I close
my eyes I can
put away all the
distractions and
just think about
God," Carder
said. photo by
Mike Dye



Asian Student Association

Front Row: Sachie Handa, Rieko Nonaka, Seoh Khim Tan, Hitomi Koyama and Ayuko Imamura. Row 2: King Kwan, Jenny Schell, Rie Ogusu, Minoru Sueyoshi, Masafumi Haraguchi and Sota Maeda. Back Row: Tze-Liang Tan, Seoh Nang Tan, Nobutaka Nakamura and Yao-Chieh Young.

- >Promoted understanding of the Asian culture, language and life by coordinating events
- >Adopted A Highway and held cultural sessions with Horace Mann Laboratory students



Association of Nontraditional Students

Front Row: Tricia Rusch and Kelly Downman. Back Row: Raymond Rogers, Anita Coleman and Cathy Paus.

- >Promoted networking and relations between nontraditional students
- >Supported an Angel Tree and held potluck dinners



Baptist Student Union

Front Row: Julia Kitang, Karin Yarnell, Meghan Yarnell, Jenny Schell, Niki Carder, Amanda Head, Stephanie Davis, Lydia Alderton, Adam Alderton and Rachael McDonald. Row 2: Misty Ayers, Megan Dovel, Shanna Rowan, Ben Koehn, Leslie Lober, Brandon Wright and Chris Ayers. Back Row: Michael Lovelace, Jason Yarnell, David Griffin, Tim Scott, Cole Young, Eric Oldfield, Sam Thrower and Shawn Hess.

- >Met weekly to discuss their commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord
- >Valentine's Day banquet and Aladine food drive connected the organization to the university and community



Bearcat Steppers

Front Row: Sarah Meyer, Lindsey Ferguson, Mandy Decker, Liz Holmes and Erin Schaper. Row 2: Sarah Otte, Jackie Miller, Sarah Rice and Tiffany Withrow. Back Row: Heidi Morris, Stephanie Ewing, Amy Meyer, Tara Wells and Daley Dodd.

- >Gained national reputation for performances during football and basketball games and competitions
- >Held a cheerleading camp for middle school and high school girls



Cultural lessons

A handful of international students passed out handmade bookmarks with Chinese writing. They smiled politely as they tried to explain what the symbols meant to the fragile bodies that filled the room.

Diversity spread through Parkdale Nursing Home when the Asian Student Association visited in late January. Residents watched students demonstrate various games and traditions from their native countries in Asia.

ASA changed its name from the Chinese Student Association spring 2003 when its membership shifted from a Chinese dominated organization to a mixed Asian organization.

Club President Yao-Shieh Young said the fall was more inactive than they would have liked due to the transition of officers. Beginning in spring, however, the outreach made a comeback.

ASA enthusiastically volunteered for programs in the community and on campus such as Adopting a Highway, teaching Japanese and Chinese, visiting elementary schools and making Parkdale their first nursing home experience.

The group answered questions for the elderly and passed out bookmarks with Chinese and Japanese phrases on them. The program triggered memories for the residents. Some enjoyed telling their own stories about hosting exchange students who taught them how to count in another language.

Although most residents watched without interacting, the ASA members were patient and kind to the gentle audience.

"I think it's a very good thing for my life...in my country I have no chance to do that (visit elderly)," member Shu-Yun Chen said. "I really enjoyed this activity."

Young planned on continuing their active involvement in spreading multiculturalism.

"We want to see more students get involved in multicultural activities, because we're not seeing enough of that," Young said.

ASA members were thankful to visit the nursing home where residents hosted them. Members benefited from the organization, taking away fresh experiences to remind them of their cause.

"It's not necessarily me, but I try to get everyone to share the benefits that I get," Young said. "At the same time, the community can also benefit. It's not just for me but for everyone and I think that's very important."



Tan Tze-Liang, a member of the Asian Student Association, helps the elderly learn how to say one to 10 in Chinese. ASA performed a native dance for elderly at Parkdale Nursing Home. photo by Mike Dye

Bearcat Voice

Front Row: Allie Zarcoera and Jordan Orscheln. Row 2: Eric Willis, Phillip Dunn and Janson M. Thomas.

- >Worked to improve campus life and secure a student voice
- >Worked to influence pro-student action within existing university organizations



Campus Crusade for Christ (Leadership Group)

Front Row: Megan Koeteman, Mindy Leatherman, Kelly Smith and Bobi Bender.
Row 2: Sean Berger, Lisa Doudna, Katie Mosby, David Ford and Allison Witte.
Back Row: Mitch Hiser, Jason Pinder, Bryan Becker, Clint Woods and Daniel Jeppesen.

- >X-nelo Concert
- >Fall Retreat
- >Matt Wertz Concert



Campus Crusade for Christ

Front Row: Sarah Withorn, Michelle Watson, Nicholas Watson, Julia Kitzing, Emily Dennis, Theresa Jones, Dana Martin, Jenna Bessler, Valerie Hoakson, Lindsey Vorm, Jesse Fisher and Malinda Bartholow. Row 2: Deanna Allen, Lindsey Dixon, Sara Young, Sarah Daniels, Kelsey Nichols, Kelsey Nichols, Melanie McLain, Stephanie Bial, Shawn Stetson, Aaron Phares, Michael Wemhoff, Megan Bernhardt and Renee Wicker. Back Row: Ryan Lidolph, Bradley Hall, Marie Beatty, Ashlee Cooper, Amanda Umsheid, Logan Garland, Chris White, Tiffany Gale, Andrew Jackson, Lane Meyer, Pam Marticke and Kathryn Jensen.

- >Interdenominational campus ministry tried to build believers in Jesus Christ and assisted them in sharing their faith with others
- >Held weekly Bible studies, worship, meetings, retreats and conferences



Cardinal Key

Front Row: Carly Michael, Valerie Lemke, Beth Lilly, Monica Marcolino, Krystin Stubblefield and Jenna Cook. Row 2: Josh Kleinlein, Emily Dix, Amy Meyer, Ashlee Erwin and Laci Ann Fiala. Back Row: Kevin Pitts, Taylor Tholen, Chase Cornett, Ryan Lidolph and Brandon Deets.

- >Recognized students who showed a degree of excellence in their scholastic and campus participation
- >Raised money for juvenile diabetes, participated in highway clean-ups and donated Christmas cards to the Maryville nursing home
- >Qualifications included at least sophomore status and a 3.0 GPA



Christian Campus House

Front Row: Sarah Nickerson, Angela Hartle, Kari Renshaw, Rebekah Hopkins, Tracey Switzer, Amy Angotti and Leah Koger. Row 2: Katy Ahlrichs, Jasmine Stilson, Megan Ferguson, Kim Bredehoeft, Megan Moore, Malinda Bartholow and Julie K. Flynn. Back Row: Rob Ahlrichs, Roger Charley, Junghoon Park, Brad Fullbright, Thomas Wells, Jason Nickerson, Angelita Escher and Carla Egeland.

- >Christian organization dedicated to serving Christ, studying the Bible and reaching out in Christian service
- >Weekly Tuesday and Sunday worship and took a mission trip during spring break



Dan Novelli and Emily Dennis participate in a skit named "McJesus," where the students choose Jesus over anything. Campus Crusade met weekly and had more than 300 members. photo by Mike Dye



Campus Crusade for Christ

by Cole Young

Tight quarters move Godly encounters

Students found themselves sitting shoulder-to-shoulder in the aisles, on the window sills and sweating from body heat in order to be a part of the largest Christian organization on campus.

Campus Crusade for Christ had more than 250 students attend their weekly meetings and had trouble finding a place to seat those in attendance causing jumps between the Union Ballroom and Colden Hall 3500.

"It's a great problem to have," Sean Berger said. "(Student Affairs) does a decent job at finding places for us to meet and tries to accommodate us."

When the group formed in 1997, they never worried about where they met. Crusade considered it a good week when 100 students showed up for their weekly Thursday night meetings.

"Crusade has had a huge growth since my freshman year," Daniel Jeppsen said. "The size of the group has more than doubled."

For Jeppsen, the cramped spaces were a concern. He said people would eventually get sick of sitting on the floor, being crowded and eventually stop coming. While some feared the tight space turned regulars away, others enjoyed the small confines.

"It doesn't bother me personally," Laura Mings said. "I like the crowdedness. If you were new, it might bother you, but being so close to everyone created sort of an electric atmosphere between everyone."

The group considered several options for easing the crowded spaces including having two meetings a week but in the end, chose to have one weekly meeting.

While there was a crowd Thursday nights, students had plenty of other opportunities to spend time together outside of the usual meeting.

Each Monday and Wednesday the group held Bible studies, giving students an opportunity to get to know each other on a more personal level. The group broke into three different studies, a co-ed, men and women's study. In addition, the group attended the Denver Christmas Conference during winter break.

"A lot of the spiritual growth we get is outside of Thursday night," Berger said. "Students build bonds through friendship, Bible studies and discipleship. That's where they are changed. That is where I was changed."

Collegiate Farm Bureau

Front Row: Christopher Evans, Becky Bennett, Clint Prange and Wesley Anstey.
Back Row: Brandon Muir, Lane Meyer, Scott Moberly, Ryan Porter and Arley Larson.

> Advocated college students participation in Farm Bureau activities

> Emphasized teamwork and achieved goals through public policy, public relations and economic analysis



Common Ground

Front Row: Stephanie Hurd, Elena Smith-Martinez, Rhonda Luna, Gretchyn Northhouse, Ashley Cunningham and Amanda Byler. Row 2: Donald Simon, Courtney Ketzler, Jacqueline Powers and Amy Carr and Heather Lompe. Back Row: Bert Peacock, Olivia Jacoby, Keegan Palckill, Rachel Bradford and Tim Holley.

- > Provided a network of support for members to develop positive self-images and achieve personal goals
- > Raised awareness through National Coming Out Week, hate crime memorial vigil and National Day of Silence



Country Faith

Front Row: Dave Adams, Brandy Ragar, Monica Harper, Alicia Robinson and Elizabeth McLellan. Row 2: Brenda Leap, Casie Leshar, Erin Roberts and Kate McLellan. Back Row: Bryce Lemke, Alan Schneider, Keith Duffey and Brittanie Kraus.

- > Held monthly "Shindiggs" at Maryville's Airport
- > Participated in various community contributions



Equestrian Team

Front Row: Megan Dovel, Amanda Husband, Kari Kern, Becca Murphy and Whitney Howk. Row 2: Rachel Osborn, Dendre K. Webb, Stacey Taylor, Kim Weis and Marci Weis.

- > Participated in IHSA-Collegiate Horse Shows
- > Held community riding clinics



Folkloric of Latin America

Front Row: Malinda Bartholow, Malisa Carrillo, Ada Lucia Gonzalez and Erin Long. Back Row: Ximena Caballero, Monica Marcolino, Elizabeth Ramirez and Maria D. Rodriguez.

- > Committed to introducing the idea of the Hispanic culture
- > Danced at university activities including La Fiesta Latina and Salsay Salsa



Common Ground

by Megan Heuer

Tolerance offers support

A tall figure wearing heels and a tight, leopard-print miniskirt glided into the room. Once he sat down, knees together, the understanding drag queen satisfied questions of a woman curious about the art of cross-dressing.

Common Ground, the gay, lesbian and bisexual support-group, met once a week to discuss social issues related to homosexuality and ways to raise awareness on campus.

Vice President Gretchyn Nothhouse said student support outside the organization improved from previous years when their signs were torn down from campus bulletin boards. Common Ground received support from the community as well.

Community member Bert Peacock started cross-dressing when he was a child and wore women's clothing everywhere but work. He said he came to meetings for moral support and companionship even though he was not gay.

To raise awareness of cross-dressing, Common Ground sponsored a Dance and Drag Show every March to raise money for the Northwest Family Center. Other fund-raisers and events included the Matthew Shepard Memorial Walk and Candlelight Vigil, National Coming Out Week and World AIDS Day.

"It's a really good thing to know that there is support out there because sometimes you come across animosity towards homosexuals and transgender," member Jacquelin Powers said. "It's just really nice to know that there's such a group on campus that will always be there for you. Whether they agree with you, they'll help you with any issues and they'll help spread awareness."



Dressed in drag, Bert Peacock and Lauren Leach vote on which charity to donate to during a Common Ground meeting. "I'm just here for the moral support for the kids," Peacock said. photo by Mike Dye

Common Ground sponsor Lauren Leech said she hoped for a day when gay, lesbian and bisexual relationships were less "newsworthy." Leech also said she would like to see the world change so all sexualities would be accepted.

Common Ground welcomed students of all sexualities, ages and opinions. Meetings were spent discussing fund-raisers as well as issues that members wanted to bring attention to.

Curtis Howell joined Common Ground after transferring from Truman State University where he also took part in a support group. Howell wanted to see everyone become more tolerant of individual's feelings.

"Everything doesn't have to be black and white, just keep everything gray," Howell said. "It doesn't really matter who you are just worry about people inside, not what they do with their personal life."

Hispanic American Leadership Organization



Front Row: Ada Lucia Gonzalez, Monica Marcolino, Erin Long, Paco Martinez and Shalini Wilfred. Row 2: Ximena Caballero, Maria D. Rodriguez, Cristina Mittenwey and Elizabeth Ramirez. Back Row: Amy Carr, Irving Hernandez, Kaylyn Lakenbrink, Azalea Michel-Whitley and Andy Shields.

>Promoted a healthy and positive environment for Hispanic students and those who wanted to learn more about the Hispanic culture

>Took part in Hispanic Heritage Month, La Fiesta Latina, Shake your Bon-Bon, a Regional Empowerment Conference and the USHLI National conference

Hudson Hall Council

Front Row: Amanda Atkins, Dustin Stahl, Kristen Kaufmann, Stephanie Trester, Allie Hampton and Amber Hohensee. Row 2: Dan Novelli, Heather Smith, Veronica Bryant, Sheila Wright and Matt Weeder. Back Row: Matthew Bogley, Alex Oliver, Katie Zenor and Brian Quinlan.

- > Focused on student living in Hudson hall
- > Promoted hall improvement and organized social events
- > Hudson Hall held an annual Mr. Hudson Competition and the Hudson Hula



Indian Student Association

Front Row: Puneet Arya, Tarun K. Ghai, Utkarsh Bansal, Virabhat Kharadia, Sri Siva, Mayank Kapur, Siddharth Dhur, Shyam Devchoudhury and Shalini Wilfred. Row 2: Ritu Jain, Ruchira Bali, Ankush Thakur, Viraj Kothan, Abhijit Kunte, Yash Kapoor, Vishal Sethi, Aadhar Garg and Rummi Babbra. Back Row: Stephanie Desouza, Ameet Sawhney, Israel Peter Govana Prakash, Varun Ajmani, Heramb Arora, Sanjiv Kumar, Gaurav Sharma and Sashank Veligati.

- > Sought to promote the culture of India and its people through wide variety of activities
- > Held annual Festival of Lights celebration in the fall



International Student Organization

Front Row: Monica Marcelino, Rieko Nonaka, Humphrey Mararo, King Kwan, Minoru Sueyoshi, Raj Shankar and Akshay Kamath. Row 2: Mohammed Naeem Zaman, Yash Kapoor, Tarun K Ghai, Pooja Verma, Shyam Devchoudhury, Alisha Samuel and Rainett Wageknecht. Row 3: Stephanie Desouza, Ravan Maimani, Angela Woods, Siddharth Dhur, Utkarsh Bansal, Shalini Wilfred and Hitomi Koyama. Back Row: Gasim Ibrahimkhan, Nizar M. Azarkane, Bayo Oludaja, Heramb Arora, Reda Ibrahimkhan, Ukpong Eyo, Vishal Sethi and Mayank Kapur.

- > Promoted better relationships among students of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- > Participated in the annual flag raising celebration, BRUSH and ISO Dinner



K.I.D.S. I

Front Row: Janelle McNeil, Evie Baxter, Heidi Shires, Christie Colwell, Abby Mullenix, Katy Laswell and Dr. Krisi Alexander. Row 2: Amanda Baker, Oakley Burson, Amanda Gardner, Christine Bartelson, Katie Goesser, Ashley Kempf, Melnie McLain, Jeana Levens, Amanda Jordan, Jennifer Overturf and Erica Dickey. Row 3: Krystal Grohman, Dana Buresh, Katie Harper, Amber Gill, Pamela Baker, Meghan Denney, Rachel Arndorfer, Lesley Svoboda, Lacey Fitzgerald, Nicole Ballard and Ashley Schieber. Back Row: Stefani Askey, Rachel Thompson, Amanda Tabler, Sheena Powley, Ashlee Cooper, Megan Fisher, Jasmine Tulson, Jordan Benson, Kristie Egan, Melissa Dusenberry and Jennifer Smith.

- > Gathered once a month with community children in a mentoring program
- > Played a Big Brother, Big Sister Role to children throughout the year





Rachelle Lacy, Amanda Stobbe and Yosuke Mori make door and picture frames during K.I.D.S. There are more than 100 students involved in the organization. photo by Mike Dye

K.I.D.S.

by Kara Swink

Creative mentors

Acrylic paints and construction paper covered cardboard and Popsicle sticks as children created works of art in the Horace Mann Gymnasium.

In the corner, 8-year-old Nathan Dirks sprinkled red glitter onto his newly assembled picture frame as "Big-Sister" Rebecca Day worked along side writing "K.I.D.S." onto a piece of cinnamon-red, colored poster board.

"My favorite part is painting," Dirks said. "And my big sis' is pretty fun."

Day was one of more than 60 university students who applied to become a K.I.D.S. mentor for more than 100 community children during fall 2003. With the large number of university students that applied, President Christie Colwell paired two mentors with each kindergarten through sixth-grade student.

Colwell said when the abundance of university student applications came back, she was surprised but

excited so many individuals wanted to touch a child's life.

"The program is much like the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program...and it's neat to see students getting involved with kids," Colwell said. "And for kids it offers them someone else to talk to besides mom or dad."

To keep children entertained, mentors created two craft stations lined with art projects on the east side of the gymnasium and designed relay races on the remaining half. During the month, mentors sent the children cards and called them once a week until they met again.

The organization started in 2001 by contacting community parents and inquiring if they would be interested in allowing their child to attend a university sponsored outreach program.

"Since it started parents have been very positive with it and even help us volunteer," Colwell said. "This organization is just a great opportunity to give back to kids. And it's neat to see the friendships that develop."

K.I.D.S. II



Front Row: Kristin Devlin, Stephanie Swift, Sara Bornholdt, Jeremy Schmitt, Cheryl Rafsky, Megan Sappenfield, Jennifer McNair, Drew DeJong, Elizabeth Stehly and Rachel Pinder. Row 2: Lori King, Meredith Fork, Liz Vostre, Jen Healy, Stacey Shanks, Cierra Richeu, Jenna Deg, Katie Knobbe, Chris Belknap and Kacey Twist. Row 3: Andi Pool, Kim Wernimont, Valerie Gann, Carrie Euken, Jennifer Schultes, Michelle Stumph, Jennifer Thomas, Amanda Moore, Kelly Stuhrenberg, Ashley Shatzer, Susan Short and Cheryl Mauderly. Back Row: Tarah Knudsen, Michelle Watson, Brett Fisher, Landy Croissant, Melinda Delamter, Erica Reynolds, Kristy Irvin, Jamie Griffin, Nicole Marriott, Amanda Stobbe and Laura DeLong.



Junior, Joanna Townley enjoys a chili supper at the Newman Center with her friends. Each week the Newman Center provided students with a home cooked meal. photo by Nicole Richards

Newman Center

by Cole Young

Home-cooked faith

For many college students, attending the Newman Center meant they were able to receive what they had longed for since leaving home.

Students at the Newman Center met each Wednesday for fellowship and home-cooked meals.

"It's nice to be able to go there and fellowship with other people in your Catholic faith," Mike Wemhoff said. "The food is good too."

The atmosphere Wednesday nights was a very relaxed one that was aimed at not putting any pressure on those who had done anything at the Newman Center.

"It's a very informal time," Justin Heinen said. "We don't push people to talk, but if people want to talk, we are always there to listen. Instead, we want to push what we have going on to the people that come."

Each week between 40 and 50 students enjoyed the free meals ranging from soups to barbecue beef. To pay for the meal costs, students put on various fund-raisers.

"Our biggest fund-raisers were our pancake feeds," Wemhoff said. "Twice a year, we fix pancakes for the people at St. Gregory's, and they eat them after church."

The group accepted free-will donations from the St. Gregory congregation, which proved to be generous to the college students.

"The congregation at St. Gregory's helps us offset some of the costs that we have during the year," President Ann Gordon said.

Community support also paid other projects the Newman Center participated in, including renovation of their building.

"A lot of people from St. Gregory's have been involved in the Newman Center and know a lot about it," Wemhoff said. "People from the community support it and want to see it grow."

St. Gregory's served as the church many of the students attended each week.

"When you go to St. Gregory's on Sunday, you see everyone from the Newman Center there," Wemhoff said.

The members of the Newman Center also gave back some of the good fortune they received to those not so fortunate.

On alternating years, the group spent their spring break helping with Habitat for Humanity projects. Other endeavors they were involved in include Trick-or-Treating for can goods and working at a soup kitchen in St. Joseph.

"It's our way of giving back," Gordon said. "We try and help people out the same way we are helped out."

Middle Eastern Student Association

Front Row: Rada Ibrahimkhan, Rayan Maimah, Abdul Rahman Al-Hagan and Gasim Ibrahimkhan. Row 2: Nizar M. Azarkane, Elizabeth A. Calton, Andy Shields and Bayo Oluajaja.

>Provided university with opportunities to learn about Middle Eastern Culture.

>Participated in international Culteral Week and the annual flag Raising ceremony.





Mortar Board

Front Row: Valerie Lamke, Megan Koeteman, Molly Miller, Nicole Powers and Jamie Knierim. Row 2: Sarah Plisgraff, Carrie Johnson, Cara Wiese, Tarryn Dicke, Jordan Starr and Michelle Stacy. Back Row: Josh Kleinlein, Eric Willis, Robin Sol, Ryan Laidolph, Emily Dix and Cathy Paus.

- >Recognized students for outstanding scholarship, leadership and service
- >Students were required to carry a 3.0 GPA, be in senior status.



Newman Center

Front Row: Linellis Santiago, Miranda Weigel, Jacqueline, Handlos, Carly Ray, Kristen Parrish, Anne Gordon. Row 2: Bridget Brown, Justin Heinen, Sarah Teubner, Emily VanBuskirk, Katie Knobbe, Susan Hogedorn and Julie Toebben. Back Row: Michael Wemhoff, April Haslag, Monica Caldwell, Amanda Sanderson, David Farmer and John Brady.

- >Served the Catholic community at the university
- >Conducted Food Pantry Service Project
- >Sponsored weekly dinners shared by students and faculty.
- >Gathered for weekly meetings, Bible studies and discussions.



Northwest Paintball

Front Row: Matt Estep, Brad Fullbright, Tony Sasso and Bonnie Bisbee. Back Row: Grant Howard, TJ McGinnis, Justin Waters, Brad Duggan and Michelle Brockman.

- >Gathered to play and learn the game rules of paintball.
- >Participated in the NCPA National Collegiate Paintball Association
- >Competed in GPIC Great Plains Intercollegiate Conference.



National Residence Hall Honorary

Front Row: Janson M. Thomas, Taylor Harness and Allison Brown. Row 2: Rebecca Griffin, Jodie M. Hitz, Molly Miller and Kitty Nixon. Back Row: Nickara Pratt, Sam Sankovich, Abby Galbraith, Taylor Thoben and Tiffany Anderson.

- >Provided recognition and support for individuals who contributed outstanding service and leadership in the advancement of the residence hall system
- >Comprised of the top 1 percent of student leaders in the residence halls.

Northwest Women's Golf

Front Row: Katherine Tomlin, Sheri Epps and Laurie Whittington. Back Row: J. Pat McLaughlin, Tiffiny Bohannon, Jamie Boreyk, Kelly Kimble and Becky Justice.

- >Promoted the game of golf at the club level for women
- >Competed in golf competitions



Peer Education

Front Row: Liz Wood, Ashley Cunningham, Jor Mosley, Humphrey Marard, Anita Wilson, Marcella Trujillo, Renne Keeton, Mary E. Burgess and Virginia Murr. Row 2: Amanda Atkins, Krista Martine, Katy Laswell, Alicia Hill, Beth Kloewer, Jodie Hitz, Anna Chilton, Darla Steward and Susan Reynolds. Row 3: Melody Hubbard, Strella Wolfe, Jessica Hilsabeck, Andrea Messick, Kera Karnes, Desirae Boye, Adrian James, Carol Cowles and Michelle Ryan. Back Row: Nicole Schuchmann, Bryce Lemke, Jeffrey Foot, Mike Mattock, Trevor Haves, Scott Rivera, Rebecca Day, Maegan Irwin and Kenneth Davis Jr.

- >Gathered weekly to promote healthy decisions for students
- >Organized Alcohol Awareness Week and Sex Responsibility Week



Perrin Hall Council

Front Row: Amanda Gardner, Danielle Schalk and Ashley Wittmaack. Row 2: Laura Peterson, Leslie Griswald, Sara Chamberlain and Launey Martelle. Back Row: Tarasa Oldridge

- >Organization for women who lived in Perrin Hall
- >Promoted improvements to the hall, organized social activities and created a cultural atmosphere within the hall



Phillips Hall Council

Front Row: Angela Posten, Jennifer McNair and Marsha Smyth. Back Row: Sam Sankovich, Alexandra Heerlein and Danielle Freemyer.

- >Provided a place for students living in Phillips Hall to voice their opinion
- >Created ways for students to express hall improvement ideas



Student Senate

by Sarah Swedberg

Democracy voices opinions

The rap of a mallet cracked against the table as the student governing body was called to order.

Student Senate President Emily Dix leads the weekly meeting at the union. Student Senate met to discuss and vote on giving the theater program \$750 to attend the USITT Conference and Stage Expo convention. photos by Mike Dye



Student Senate President Emily Dix began her presidency with one focus: represent students, their concerns and needs.

"I think the best thing, this year, has been the quality of student senators that have been elected this year," Dix said. "We have just had a really hard working group of people that have dedicated to improving student life and truly making a difference at Northwest."

University students elected more than 30 leaders who focused their efforts on tackling student issues such as the Northwest and University of Missouri merger and wrote a proposal for a student activities fee.

"My primary goal coming in as president was to really go back to the students and make them our primary focus; since we are serving them as their student government," Dix said.

Dix said Student Senate committed themselves to talking with students each week to hear their concerns, answer their questions and inform them of issues affecting them.

Each week, senators filled out "A Sense of Constituency" report. Dix said all student senators were required to fill out a report by contacting their constituents and compiling a written report of concerns, questions and issues for Senate.

"It's been a great way for us to fulfill one of my missions, which was finding out what these students really care about, what are their concerns and how can we make this a better campus for everyone," Dix said.

Student Senate Vice President Chase Cornett said senators always wanted to know what students' thought about and what concerns they had.

Through conversations with students, senators researched each issue, discussed it as a group and held student forums. Their end result through research and opinion gathering usually resulted in a passed Student Senate resolution, a Webstar vote or a referendum that expressed both Student Senate and University students' stance on the issue.

Student senators throughout the year made it a goal to represent students better and to focus on what students wanted most. And if students thought Student Senate needed to improve, Dix said she hoped students would speak.

"I hope that if they feel like there is more room for improvement, which I am sure that there is, that they'll come forth and let us know what we can do," Dix said.

Participating in a discussion at the weekly meeting of Young Democrats, Dustin Bowne expresses his point on one of many political issues. Young Democrats also worked with the community by promoting political awareness.
photo by Mike Dye



Political progression

Young Democrats offered a comfortable environment for students and community members to discuss political issues facing the country.

Affiliated with both Young Democrats of Missouri and America, the university's chapter of Young Democrats was open to students and community members under the age of 36. On average, 10 to 15 members attended the weekly meetings to discuss political issues.

"As an organization goes, we're pretty lax on rules, requirements and memberships," President Elizabeth Sexton said.

Young Democrats worked both on and off campus to keep students and community members politically informed. They registered voters and served as volunteers for local candidates and officials with door-to-door campaigns.

"We try to get people excited about things," Christine Campbell said.

The organization attended different Democratic conventions around Missouri throughout the year. Various political leaders, including Missouri Gov. Bob Holden and Congressman Dick Gephardt, spoke to the groups attending the convention. Campbell said attending a convention was a good way to keep motivated and see that politics could really get a person somewhere in life.

Sexton said it was important for the organization to provide a comfortable and open environment for political discussion because so few organizations offered that. She also mentioned the importance of positive students striving for a positive impact.

"If you stand together, you stand a lot stronger," Sexton said.

Residence Hall Association

Front Row: Christine Colwell, Olivia Barrett, Christine Brown, Heidi Shires, Beth Kloewer, Diana Rayer, Jodie Hitz, Angela Posten, Emily Meggers, Crystal Benton and Bobby Burke. Row 2: Leanne Thurman, Abby Galbraith, Matt Hake, Crystal Tran, Meghan Denney, Desiree Campbell, Marsha Smyth, Alexandra Heerlein, Matt Bagley and Kristen Kaufmann. Back Row: Lydia Dombrowski, Ashley Wittmaack, Kari Spinks, Kristin Jackson, Brandon Stanley, John Crenshaw-Gardner, Danielle Freemyer, Heather Smith, Brent Chappelow and Tarasa Oldridge.

- >Governing program for residence halls on campus
- >Involved in enacting residence hall policies, promoting programs, and activities to upgrade and enhance the environment in the residence halls
- >Sponsored activities such as De-Dorm, the Dance-a-thon and the Maid Auction



Student Advisory Council

Front Row: Wes Hart, John Platt, Elizabeth Hart. Row 2: Bryce Lemke, Sara Jochens, Nicole Williams, Krystle Smith and Brian Gladman. Back Row: Heidi Packard, Jessica Baker and Brandy Pitts. Back Row: Jasmine Stilson, Jeanne Schaffer and Brandon Heck.

- >Focused on community service and leadership
- >Activities included donating for Toys-for-tots, Head Start Easter egg hunt and a Thanksgiving food drive

Student Ambassadors

Front Row: Megan Whitten, Betsy Williams, Jodi Victor, Melissa Elliot, Marlene Gullick, Heidi Shires, Shelby Bartels, Karri Martin and Burnea Cothrine. Row 2: Jill Reiley, Kristen Funke, Nicholas Watson, Sara Shepherd, Abby Stephens, Kristin Helmink, Josh Stephenson and Taylor Tholen. Back Row: Chase Cornett, Nate Lane, Daniel Watkins, Nathan Rivera, Carrie Johnson, Emily Dix, Ryan Ludolph, Bryan Becker and Troy Tysdahl.

- >Assisted the Admissions Office in student recruitment, conducted tours and assisted during Freshman
- >Hosted orientation, Family Day and Sneak Preview
- >Applicants had to have a 2.7 GPA, three trimesters remaining and be a full-time student

Student Senate

Front Row: Chase Cornett, Emily Dix and Kristin Helmink. Row 2: Kamille Burrell, Sarah Batmann, Jordan Orscheln, Nick Talone, Kim Cline, Kara Ferguson, Sarah Pfalzgraff and Julie Victor. Row 3: Jessica Hartley, Adam Nelson, Eric Willis, Pete Lanfranca, Cathy Paus, Tiffany Baur, Allie Zarror and Kayli Burrell. Back Row: Derek Gillespie, Matthew Moncivais, Phillip Dunn, Brandon Ridder, Abby Stephens, Katie Mosby, Julie Toeppen and Ryan Ludolph.

- >Represented the governing body of the Student Government Association
- >Held various activities including blood drives and student forums

Young Democrats

Front Row: Christine Brown, Dan Nowosielski, Elizabeth Sexton and Christy Campbell. Row 2: Allie Zaroor, Patrick Dunlap, Tiffany Gale and Matt Todd. Back Row: Janson M. Thomas, Joshua Isom, Lydia Dombrowski and Heather Laton.

- >Offered opportunities for involvement in activities promoted by the national Democratic Party
- >Held a Rock the Vote Concert and hosted various presidential representative speakers

Alpha Gamma Rho (Active)

Front Row: Matt Schreiner, Nate Schroeder, Michael Hinrichs, Jason Vandvort, Shannon Jesse, Chris Kaufman, Tyler Rolston, Darin Orme and Kevin Miller. Row 2: Rick Aspegren, Lance Williams, Joe Parker, Brandon Schaaf, Mark Mather, Kyle Pierce, Clark Heman and Kyle McCoy. Back Row: Justin McGrath, David Gornel, Jason Gregory, Mark Hingate, Lucas Carlson, Casey Finn, Tom Campbell, Dylan L. Handley and Jarrett DePriest.

- >Social/professional fraternity for men interested in agriculture
- >Activities included working with Habitat for Humanity, their philanthropy and trash pick-up



Alpha Gamma Rho (Pledges)

Front Row: Brad Bristle, Ashley James, Adam Sandahl, Bradley Trede and Eric Dougherty. Row 2: Ryan Jungers, Chris Newton, Greg Grotjan, Gary Reichel, Joe Esther and Justin Schroeder. Back Row: Adam J. Wilmes, Seth Tyre, Jack Green, Clint McCrea and Adam Carlson.



Alpha Sigma Alpha (Active)

Front Row: Krystin Stubblefield, Lindsey Miller, Megan Prescott, Enn Knotts and Gina Tomina. Row 2: Kristie Hurt, Martha Seim, Lindsey Knight, Christi Thoni, Rachael Chase, Megan Whitten, Enn Schaper, Stacy Viditto, Kim Simon, Kelly Peterson, Shelby Bartels, Jamie Knerim and Amy Vetter. Row 3: Amy Smith, Michelle Eischeid, Abby Stephens, Elizabeth Sheek, Daley Dodd, Mary Verbeck, Lindsey Henning, Amy Zuk, Amy Espee, Nicole Bowers, Rebecca Crane, Jamie McLaughlin and Lisa Kelley. Back Row: Amy Stonum, Jill Reiley, Leslie Wilkinson, Erica Heekmann, Colleen Cronin, Tiffany Fixter, Stephanie Ridens, Stacey Salisbury, Lindsay Wittstruck, Melissa Worley, Kelsie Sis, McCarten Delaney and Holly Grete.

- >Social sorority that aimed toward physical, intellectual, spiritual and social growth
- >Philanthropies included the S. June Smith Center and Special Olympics
- >Celebrated its 75th anniversary



Alpha Sigma Alpha (Pledges)

Front Row: Alyssa Hansen, Stephanie Trester, Kamille Burrell, Sarah Zimmerschied and Kara Groves. Row 2: Kavli Burrell, Amanda Miller, Erin Roberson and Jana Gardner. Back Row: Hailey Compton, Callie Zevecke, Amanda Maron, Jennifer Magel and Brandi Price.



Hailey Compton (right) and Stacey Salisbury (left) look at past scrapbooks of Alpha Sigma Alpha at their 75th anniversary. The Alpha's national president spoke at the celebration. photo by Mike Dye

Alpha Sigma Alpha

by Megan Heuer

Reign of excellence

Elegant place settings of red and white covered the tables as alumnae and current members stood in the Union Ballroom to recite the Alpha Sigma Alpha creed.

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Phi Phi Chapter, 87 Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority members, as well as alumnae, gathered together for an eventful evening. National President Marianne Busch-Bullock and three other national officers presented the chapter with the Crown of Excellence for the first time in more than a decade.

"It's wonderful," Colleen Cronin said. "It shows how much our hard work has paid off."

To earn the Crown of Excellence, sororities were judged in the areas of scholastic achievement, finances, officer efficiency, member retention and philanthropy. Last year, the Alphas held a cumulative 3.19 GPA, had enough finances to donate \$5,000, met quota for bid week and completed nearly 5,000 hours of service projects.

Alpha members volunteered their time to local nursing homes, Kids Komer and worked with the mentally handicapped. On a larger scale, the Alphas gave to the S. June Smith Center, a children's hospital with a wing nationally known for Alpha donations. Also, the Phi Phi chapter co-sponsored a track meet for all Missouri Special Olympic participants. At the track meet they served as event coordinators, special assistants for the athletes and administered each event.

After running the Special Olympics track meet with the Alphas, member Mary Lenzen believed hours of service paid off because of what she gained while working with the handicapped.

"You gain a whole insight about their characteristics and personality," Lenzen said. "They have the most positive attitudes and are so thankful for everything. It makes you thankful for what you have."

Earning the Crown of Excellence had been in the minds of generations of Alphas. The last time the award was given to the Phi Phi chapter was more than a decade ago in 1992. Former President Megan Prescott met with advisers and decided what needed to be done to move beyond 10 consecutive years of earning the Four Star Chapter award. By setting goals and following through the Phi Phi chapter proved it obtainable.

New members spoke of the higher expectations coming into a sorority that earned such an honor. Kamille and Kali Burrell, twin sisters and stepdaughter of a former Alpha, said they were excited and worked to contribute all they could.

Current members presented a skit about the decades past reminding alumnae of the days when tuition was only \$2.75 a week at the university.

The Phi Phi Chapter began in 1928 with Wilma Wilson Sharp. After 75 years of existence and being awarded the Crown of Excellence the chapter had proven to exceed the minimum requirements and enjoyed giving to the community.

"Phi Phi is based around our four aims: spiritual, intellectual, physical and social," President Kristin Stubblefield said. "We try to incorporate these aims into our everyday lives. All of these aspects help Phi Phi develop women of poise and purpose."



Delta Sigma Theta members unveil their plaque as they reinstate the chapter. The sorority focused on community service. photo by Mike Dye



Delta Sigma Theta

by Jessica Tasler and Jessica Schmidt

Ressurrected service

Piles of donated clothes arrived to the second floor of the Student Union as members of Delta Sigma Theta aimed to emphasize their purpose.

"Delta Sigma Theta is strictly a public service sorority. When we do public service, we don't look at it as merit. It's just what we do," Burne'a Cothrine said.

Six Delta Sigma Theta members, including Cothrine, held a clothing drive Jan. 12-31. During that time, students had the opportunity to drop off any clothes they no longer wore to help Delta Sigma Theta's cause. The donated clothes went to Maryville's Family Crisis Center, Ministry Center and shelters in Kansas City.

Honoring their public service foundation, the women of Delta Sigma Theta hoped to make the clothing drive an annual event.

"The clothing drive is just another confirmation of what we do, serving others and not ourselves," Cothrine said. "It's why we were founded."

The historically African-American sorority was reactivated March 23, 2003, after a 24-year hiatus. The original chapter left the university in 1979 after all of the active members graduated. Two years ago, the process began to reactivate the sorority.

"We sent letters to the national headquarters to ask to reactivate our chapter," President Kamaria Kassim said. "We had to fill out

paperwork for them. Then, we were contacted by our regional director. She basically guided us step-by-step through the process."

Kassim and others had interest in reactivating Delta Sigma Theta because of its community service emphasis as well as its prestige.

"I wanted to be part of a black sorority because of the public service work and the wonderful experience you get from it," Astra Haney said.

Recruitment for Delta Sigma Theta was highly selective. Rush was held during the spring trimester, beginning with informative meetings. Interested women had to meet membership requirements to even be considered. From there, interviews were held and members were selected. Membership requirements included having a high grade point average and past community service involvement. According to Kassim, the sorority exemplified dignity and pride.

"(Deltas) are very well-known in the African American community as one of the top sororities," Kassim said.

Following the reactivation, Delta Sigma Theta organized the clothing drive and similar events to accentuate their public service design.

"We do a book drive, work at the crisis center, volunteer at Horace Mann and have a 'Crimson and Creme Scholarship Pageant,'" Cothrine said. "While other sororities have a philanthropy, we are a philanthropy."

Delta Chi (Actives)

Front Row: Scott Griffin, Josh Welch, Zach Edwards, Vinny Giambrone, David Burroughs, Brett Weipert, Jake Akerson, Alan Hargreaves and Eric Mills. Row 2: Jake Kite, Dakota Glasscock, Hugo Ortiz, Jordan Clark, Brett Stauffer, Eric Kochler, Dan Bradley, Kurt Koenig and Daniel Brendle. Back Row: Phelan J. Fuen, Brent Vogt, David Barth, Joe Ramsey, Mike McMurtrey, Paul Combs, Justin Winter, Zach McCappin and Daniel Whitacre.

>Provided an environment for intellectual growth and character development

>Pride themselves on their community service, philanthropy and academics



Delta Chi (Pledges)

Front Row: Richard Ryan, Andrew Thomas, Nathaniel Price, TJ McGinnis, Jason Guthery, Paul Zimmer, Ryan Murphy, Eric Harbin, Jordan Benson, Ben Karney and Nick Rosenthal. Row 2: Tyler Mapel, Dillon Murray, Bradley Scroggins, Mike Lindvall, Matt Lippincott, Ty Cravens, Roman Mintum and Phil Arreguin. Back Row: Jeff Rix, Christopher Durkanicz, Danny Potthoff, Kyle Brant, Adam Manus, Jeremy Bachmann, Matt Robb and Matt Peterson.

Delta Sigma Phi

Front Row: Joe Wendt, Nick Kieta, Chris Emison, Jake Moore, Jo Pattavina, Daniel Terry, Jr. and Ben Fiedler. Row 2: Ryan Schlotfeld, Lee Dishman, Eric Hathaway, Nik Hargis, Ben Ditsch and Jeremy Horne. Back Row: Ethan Adams, Troy Gibson, Michael Stanek, Kyle Perino and Trevor Hein.

- >Known as the Fraternity of Engineered Leadership
- >Promoted a strong sense of friendship, leadership and community service throughout the year
- >Sponsored the David F. Payton Softball Classic

Delta Sigma Theta

Front Row: Nickara Pratt, Jeneen Beakers, Kamaria Kassim, Burne'a Cothrine and Astra Haney.

- >Reinstated African-American sorority prides themselves on community service and leadership
- >Organized activities such as Development Week, Economic Week and International Awareness Week

Delta Zeta

Front Row: Kim Hermreck, Sadie Mullen, Lindsey Freerking, Angela Gargent, Marlene Gullick, Kacie Perna and Ashley Wittmeyer. Row 2: Rachel Schumacher, Colleen Olsen, Meghan Bailey, Lisa Hirst, Amber Williams, Kari Freerking, Rachelle Wright and Katie Belton. Row 3: Emily Stroud, Heather Wynn, Ashley Merrick, Laci Williamson, Christine Miller, Kate Billesbach, Sarah Baird, Xandria Wiltshire and Meghan Winn. Back Row: Nicole McMurtry, Renee Wicker, Megan Bernhardt, Angela Gehring, Sheila Thornton, Jenny Vendelti, Jenny Martin, Jayce Martin and Kindra Felver.

- >Greek social organization for women.
- >Took pride in their national philanthropy supporting the speech and hearing impaired
- >Sponsored "Big Man on Campus"

Delta Zeta
by Kerry Thompson

Parental escape

Small hands grabbed for Legos and cookies, while tiny feet traveled from tables to toys in search of something to play with. Quietly in the background, Mom and Dad tried to sneak out the door, ready for a night of freedom.

Delta Zeta pledges offered Free Childcare for Professors Jan. 16 at the Student Union.

According to Philanthropy Chair Heather Wynn, Delta Zeta sponsored the event to give professors a night off. Delta Zeta planned coloring, movies and snacks.

University employees John and Robin Gallaher took advantage of the free service by taking their 2-year-old daughter, Natalie.

"It's nice to have a night out with friends with no worries, and it's free," Robin said.

Inter-Fraternity Council

Front Row: Mike McMurtrey, Clifford Owings, Stephen Terry and Josh Kleinlein.

>Governing body for the men's national Greek organizations which fostered interfraternity relations and assisted the college chapter of the National Interfraternity Council

>Participated in Make a Wish Foundation and MGCA MidAmerican Greek Council Association



The 2003 Delta Zeta pledge class created an inviting atmosphere. Natalie didn't seem to have any qualms about leaving Mom and Dad and exploring the room. She said she wanted to play and eat crackers.

"It went over really well. A problem we will fix next time is not doing it after a big break. We needed more time to get the word out," Wynn said.

Heather Wynn said since the event took place the first weekend back from winter break, more time was needed to publicize the event. Only three children attended, but the Deltas thought about offering the service again in the future.

Not only did the parents benefit from the free childcare but the pledge class was able to fulfill three hours of their community service hours.

Delta's agreed that helping out the community was a great service.

"I think they gain more respect for the community by helping other people," Megan Bernhardt, former philanthropy chair said.

Delta Zeta sister Rachel Schumacher watches Reese Bickford play with his Legos at the Delta Zeta babysitting day. The sorority offered the program as part of their community service hours. photo by Mike Dye



Kappa Kappa Psi

Front Row: Rachelle Wright, Missa Elliott, Julie Knapp, Emily Heisterkamp, Nicholas Ross, Jamie Swan, Elisa Adkison and Kristopher Goodall. Row 2: Amanda Miller, A Laina Beckwith, Jennifer Wells, Victor Chinnun Buele, Jami Longenecker, Jana Lienemann, Tara Epperson, Michelle Marquis and Brooke Duke. Row 3: Eric Lopata, Anthony Gomez, Kent Pierpoint, Samara Shoults, Mandy Bengtson, Krysten Miller, Sabrina Nemeyer, Charlotte Jorgensen and Catherine Dunville. Back Row: Braya Hicks, Jared Kirk, Elgin Smith, Tom Brockman, Carrie Shuck, Rusty Ehrldridge, Brett Kisker, Jennifer Cameron, Jamie Witt and Emily VanBuskirk.

>Honored outstanding band members through privilege of membership

>Recognized at the National Level for being an outstanding chapter



Kappa Sigma

Front Row: Alan Colling, Josh Ferguson, Jon Carlin and Matt Correll. Row 2: Timothy Park, Jake Gerriettes, Tristan Rains, Aaron Tisd, Timothy Kuzing, Joshua D. Roveaton, David Carr and John Koffman. Back Row: Ben Watts, Mike Long, Ben Scherer, James Riley, Ben Stone, David Brown, Paul Shepherd and Kevin Rotert

- > Fraternity built on brotherhood through various activities.
- > Sponsored Dreamgirl and participated in intramurals

Order of Omega

Front Row: Sarah Pfaltzgraff, Lindsay Neimeyer, Mary Hansen, Keely Burns, Kim Hermreck, Kari Frerking, Jamie Knierum, Krystin Stubblefield, Jodi Victor, Sarah Barmann and Megan Thole. Row 2: Amy Meyer, Amber Blanchard, Julie Victor, Tammy Kratels, Molly Miller, Nicole Bowers, Josh Klainein, Adam Otte, Becky Wand and Marlene Gullich. Back Row: Michelle Escheid, Anne Koerten, Chad Baudoin, Emily Dix, Ben York, Jake Kite, Chase Cornett, Eric Knotts, Lindsay Wittstruck, Robin Sol and Tarryn Dicke.

- > National honorary for men and women in Greek fraternities and sororities
- > Sponsored pumpkin/watermelon fest and BANG, Becoming a New Greek

Phi Mu (Actives)

Front Row: Shannon Reborn, Megan McClain, Lindsey Niemeyer, Becky Wand, Marsha Brow, Molly Gianchino, Julie Victor, Stacy Hotovy, Jessa Spainhower, Courtney La Frentz, Kim Hill and Mary Moser. Row 2: Cassidy Firebaugh, Kristen Helmunk, Brooke Sasser, Erin Drummond, Jackie Foy, Jamie Pollock, Nicole Orrell, Erin Lundergan, Heather Ingram, Heather Tillman, Shawn Logston and Natalie Blanchard. Row 3: Sarah Pfaltzgraff, Amanda Root, Shannon Randall, Lesley Svoboda, Tiffany Baur, Tiffany Cnner, Carla Keller, Kate Fehring, Melissa Lawson, Mandy McDaniel, Moira Aaron and Amber Blanchard. Back Row: Jess Irlmeier, Emily Dix, Christina Funk, Aussia Neville, Abby Dhselhoff, Rachel Livengood, Summer Craddick, Sarah Meyer, Stach Theulen, Lyndsay Melton, Katy Otte, Jessie Cooper and Kim Dalzell.

- > Social sorority for women
- > Co-sponsored a blood drive

Phi Mu (Pledges)

Front Row: Maria Mendez, Lindsay Pinney, Colette Flatters, Jenna Link, Lindsay Hoerth and Denise Rose. Row 2: Lindsay Ferguson, Michelle Barreca, Theresa Posay, Lori Agee, Tianna McGrow, Melissa Lyons and Courtney Knecht. Back Row: Lauren Bert, Megan Matthews, Dani Snelgrass, Janelle Logan, Ashley Hill and Keejet Gehrt

Phi Sigma Kappa (Active)

Front Row: Matthew Moncivais, Aaron Wilson, Kris Gurtley, Nick Schmeltz, Andy Johnson, Chris Owen, Nathan Rapp and Robin Sol. Row 2: Nathan Woodland, Nicholas Watson, Adam Lybarger, James Sondag, Shedrick Gollady, Adam P. Eimer, Michael L. DeGraaf and Zackary Hull. Row 3: Shota Kawano, Nick Waldo, Ben York, Mike Blair, David Stevens, Dan Woodland, Derek Gillespie and James Peeper

>Based on promoting brotherhood, developing character and stimulating scholarship

>To qualify, men had to have a 2.0 GPA, be approved by the active chapter members



Phi Sigma Kappa (Pledges)

Front Row: Jonathan Lowney, Brett Karrisch, Cole Schinkel, Adam Driggers and Joshua L. Gray. Row 2: Michael Williams, Robbie Garver, Joe Holdenried and Aaron Rice. Back Row: David Griffin, Mark Parra and Issac Lopez.



Sigma Phi Epsilon

Front Row: Pete LanFanca, Tim Ramsey, Joshua Earnhart, Sean Dugan, Adam Orte, Luke Gildenhaus, Trevor Myers, Robert Vandermillion and Andy Stupe. Row 2: Brian Connel, Justin Cook, Luke Vavricek, Chris Malanowski, Garrett McCluskey, Ryan White, Cameron Cloverdyke, Grant Nitsche and Cody Crawford. Row 3: Nick Talone, Kenny Benedict, Clinton Talmadge, Josh Klemlein, Josh Balwanz, Douglas Alan Quisenberry III, Destr Gibbs, James Roberson, Patrick Casey and Austin Rolf. Back Row: Brian Hobergesoneffed, Brian Dugan, Michael Krueger, Mark Calote, Clifford Owings, Steven P. Mullins, Chase Johnson, Scott Stuth, Aaron Beatty and Jeremiah Matovsek.

>Set goals to build each member into a balanced man

>Participated in a 72 hour teeter-totter-a-thon and highway clean-up



Sigma Alpha

Front Row: Kellie Blume, Kala White, Jenny Terrell, Erica Scott and Danielle Storm. Row 2: Christina Minor, Ali Parkhurst, Beth Lilly, Chrissy Cuminala and Shanon Shineman. Row 3: Anna Nabors, Lisa Nichols, Lacy Friedrich, Tammy Kreifels, Randa Brunkhorst, Taryn Dicke. Back Row: Jamie Cerda, Jennifer Jensen, Cara Wiese, Ashley Hickman, Ashley Lyle, Ashley Workman and Ashley Nelson.

>Promoted members in all facts of agriculture and bonds of friendship.

>Focused on scholarship, leadership and service throughout the year and agricultural contest sales



Dedication pays off

A leader emerged and challenged his brothers to follow his example to better the community and university.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." The Epsilon Nu Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity applied the Golden Rule to hard work throughout last year.

Phi Sigma Kappa abided by this motto in order to receive the university's "2003 Fraternity of the Year" award. Based on their participation in Homecoming activities, Greek Week, academics and their philanthropy and community service, Phi Sigma Kappa accepted the award for the first time.

"We had 12 phenomenal leaders this past year, and it will be hard to replace them," active member Scott Hill said.

Over the years, the fraternity changed the goals and initiatives to better serve the university and community.

"Our fraternity is in the business of making better men," President Logan Lightfoot said.

In addition to the university award, the national headquarters of Phi Sigma Kappa recognized Epsilon Nu as Outstanding Chapter of the Year for the third consecutive year.

Along with group achievements, Lightfoot received Man of the Year at a national convention in Georgia. He was the first to receive the award in university Epsilon Nu history.

"It was a big surprise but an honor for someone from our chapter to be chosen," Robin Sol said.

The judges based their criteria on Lightfoot's scholastic achievement, community service and university accomplishments.

"Through my dedication to my fraternity as well as the Greek system, I feel that my impact has been able to reach many," Lightfoot said.

Amongst his various roles on campus and in Phi Sigma Kappa, he also organized various community service events. Lightfoot provided an example for his fraternity brothers to emulate.

"A successful student leader sets himself apart by the selfless choices that he makes, the time that he spends doing nothing but listening and the decisions that he makes expecting nothing in return," Logan said.

Sigma Kappa (Actives)

Front Row: Hanna Mitchell, Alson Byers, Mary Hansen, Sarah Swedburg, Katie Knobbe, Josh Robinson, Crystal Leonard, Minden Schoknecht, Kristina Russell, Kim Cline, Megan Thole, Liz Vosre and Jill Awtry. Row 2: Jamie Roberts, Catherine Fleming, Jenna Day, Lindsay Wisham, Stacey Shanks, Michelle Russell, Keely Burns, Rachael Weller, Row 3: McDermott, Amanda Fichtner, Sherry Bowen, Jen Healy and Molly Miller. Row 4: Stephanie Noble, Kristen Finke, Kebee Guest, Kelly Huckle, Elizabeth Varnan, Jenny Bruncker, Kerry Kimbrough, Alicia Eismann, Jennifer Matus, Stephanie Doslittle, Kyla Fonker, Jenny Zehley and Megan Ellwanger. Back Row: Sarah Cole, Katie Carter, Laura Spiegel, Kallee Shewell, Jackie Palmer, Cierra Richey, Desree Campbell, Meghan Denney, Kiley Willis, Jamie Albright, Anne Koerten, Julie Hatt, Laci King and Jessica Scheuler.

- >Strived for high standards of achievement and made a constructive contribution to the community
- >Received second place for their Homecoming skit and top GPA for 2003.



Freshman, Bobby Marchert plays bumper pool at one of Phi Sigma Kappa's rush events. Phi Sigma Kappa conducted rush during mid-January. photo by Mike Dye



Sigma Kappa (Pledges)

Front Row: Alexandra Hampton, Greta Barrett, Stephanie Kilpatrick, Megan McMurphy, Megan Sappenfield and Lauren Suarez. Row 2: Crystal Tran, Cassie Barlow, Amanda Hays, Wendi Nevels, Ashlee Freeman and Erika Saito. Back Row: Elizabeth Comes, Jennifer Williams, Tabitha Biermann, Jessica Schmidt, Kathryn Brown and Andrea Garcia.



Sigma Sigma Sigma (Actives)

Front Row: Lisa DiGiovanni, Danielle Patee-Merrill, Sarah Barmann, Krystle McCarthy, Katie Shaffer, Jodi Victor, Jill Webster, Suzanne Pritchard, Kerry Thompson and Melissa Nidiver. Row 2: Hayley Leopard, Katie Mead, Faine Rickerson, Kayla Fuller, Nicole Goldstein, Stephanie Geiss, Sarah Colter, Clarissa Palmer, Meggie F. McConnell, Cassi Vorthmann and Falohn Webb. Row 3: Lauren Schaefer, Kristi Cuda, Julie Lawson, Kim Odegard, Kalyn Carpenter, Amelia Helberg, Ashley Rickerson, Suzanne Schuckman, Shannon Mark and Barbie Bishop. Back Row: Alexis Hart, Cara Thomson, Julie Sith, Julie Garrett, Melissa Wilke, Jennifer Davis, Stella Wolfe, Leah Henderson and Erica Gutelus.

> Took pride in community service, promoted high scholastic achievement and participated in functions with other Greek-letter organizations

> Sponsored annual S.O.S Walk and name brand clothing sale



Sigma Society (Actives)

Front Row: Kathryn Waigand, Mary E. Burgess, Sarah Beggs, Cortnee Vollers, Cameo Hoifar and Lindsey Lowrey. Row 2: Cayla Blunk, Nicole Baxley, Megan Leif, Shannon Ziegler, Katie Peterson, Valerie Hoakison, Erin Muldoon and Rachel Neil. Row 3: Anitra Germer, Michelle Harris, Lacie Henke, Afton Bull, Machel Snow, Holly Miller, Rachel Long, Kara Hegner and Lindsey Hickman. Back Row: Sierra Hedrick, Nikki Mullins, Laura Haney, Autumn Sparks, Amy Teutsch, Erin Pontow, Tiffany Ostroski, Emily Dettmer and JoAnn Manon.

> Provided service for the community and university

> Sponsored a Bridal Show and pet-therapy



Sigma Society (Pledges)

Front Row: Anita Wilson, Sara Boulter, Stephanie Maltz, Melissa Timmerman, Cindy Campbell, Krista Martine and Sarah Johnson. Row 2: Erin McCullough, Jessica Eagan, Ashley Jackson, Lindsey Dixon, Anna Comeau, Jaquie Gray and Kristina Olms. Back Row: Tricia Hepperman, Lindsey Davison, Desirae Boye, Brittanie Kraus, Dara Whipple, Elizabeth Carver and Terri Gevlach.



Kappa Kappa Psi

by Stephanie McCoy

Intune services

Toting trumpets and trombones, Kappa Kappa Psi wasn't the typical Greek organization.

Since 1991, Kappa Delta, the university chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, proved an exemplary chapter after being named No. 1 in the country.

Kappa Kappa Psi went coed and boasted more than 4,000 active brothers in six districts as well as many alumni and faculty. The university's chapter consisted of 40 active members.

Director of Bands Alfred Sergel believed the activities Kappa participated in reflected the purpose of the organization.

"The kind of projects that we choose to do are all service oriented, either to our specific college band, college bands in general and then, in a larger envelope, bands," Sergel said.

The scope of activities Kappa covered included giving free lessons to students who couldn't afford them and organizing the annual band banquet.

"This past fall, we contacted area high school bands, and on Friday nights, during football season, we traveled to those schools and played with their pep band during the game," Vice President for Membership Julie Knapp said. "It was fun to see the younger students get involved with their band as well as the appreciation they had for the Kappas."



Kappa Kappa Psi was founded as an honorary band fraternity at Oklahoma State University in 1919. The organization's founders sought to create a group that would strive for greater understanding, expression and good will among bands and their members.

Kappa stressed the importance of staying active in band to younger students by sponsoring a junior high band festival. Many members of Kappa Kappa Psi would also become future band directors, and learning to interact with students was beneficial for those individuals as well as the organization as a whole.

President of Kappa Kappa Psi Nicholas Ross saw the camaraderie as being very important to the organization.

"I got involved in Kappa because of the service we provide to the bands," Ross said. "Others join because they see what we do through our service and want to be a part of it. Also, they see the close brotherhood we have and want that."

High school students compete at the Four State Honor Music Festival. Kappa Kappa Psi sponsored students from Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri. photo by Mike Dye



Tau Phi Upsilon

Front Row: Brianne Knitans, Emily Murr, Sarah Winecoff, Sasi Simon, Callie Coleman and Emilie Polley. Row 2: Jennifer Jorgensen, Virginia Herbert, Maggie Robinson, Kristie Strueby and Amanda Starkey. Back Row: Erin Frederick, Andrea Stelle, Melanie Lyon and Sarah Schnakenberg.

- >Social Greek-letter sorority that strived for academic excellence, sisterhood and community involvement
- >Participated in Family Day and donated to the food pantry



Tau Kappa Epsilon

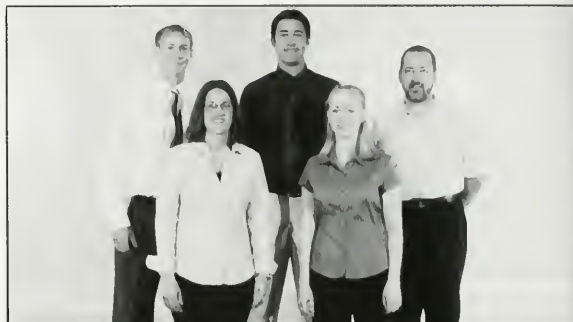
Front Row: Chad Stearman, Nicholas Greenhagen, Anthony Medina, Jeff Zeller and Derek Smith. Row 2: Tobby Craig, Dana Dill, Edwin Vega, Taft Burnes, Chris Holder, Damien Grammatico and Robert Hendrix. Row 3: Ryan Castle, Brandon Juon, Alex Oliver, James Conn, Jason Mehrhoff and Marconi Lopez. Back Row: Brett White, Josh Woodke, Eric Hunt, Ross Crouch, Adam Hunt, Aaron Hunter and Wayne Hull.

- >Participated in Adopt-a-family
- >Celebrated their 50th Anniversary

Accounting Society

Front Row: Nikki Mullins and Elizabeth McLellan Back Row: Anthony Gultua, Shaun Carpenter and Steve Ludwig

- >A student group made up of accountingorswowadtinedre about the profession.
- >The society sponsored their annual Volunteer Income TAX Assistance program for low-income families and the elderly.



Adlnk

Front Row: Amanda Frazier, Jolene Fotiadis, Jennifer Casady, Christine Grabowski, Melissa Lance, Megan Lantis and Megan Keteman. ROW 2: Angela Bramlage, Sean Berger, Julie Lawson, Arren Connot, Hitomi Koyama, Jamie Tindall, Lindsey Arthur, Grant Farman, Ryan Daniel and Pam Marticke. ROW 3: Fred Lamer, Jacque Lamer, Stacy Neibling, Anne Gordon, Amanda Beim, Valerie Berry, Megan Heuer, Brandon Strunk, Jessica Cooper, Cameron McCoy, Leslee Kammerer and Christopher Andregg. Back Row: Shota Kawano, Joel Yeldell, Aimee Bredehoeft, April Haslag, Phil Reinking, Brent Chappelow, Josh Collins, Collin Rausch, Michael Wells, Danny Burns and Allie Zarooru.

- >Provided and promoted a better understanding of advertising values and functions
- >Focused on internship opportunities and planned trips to tour agencies



Ag Ambassadors

Front Row: Jenniter Jensen, Chrissy Cummale and Marci Weis. Back Row: Tyler Rolofson and Jason Vandivort.

- >Responsible for promoting the university and the department
- >Participated in state and national FFA conventions



Agliculture Club

Front Row: Travis Foreman, Billy Coffey, Tammy Kretels, Jennifer Jensen, Randa Brunkhorst, Lance Williams and Mitchell Evans. ROW 2: Jammie Van Laar, Brandy Ragar, Gary Reichel, Emily Meggers, Ashley Workman and Ryan Pauley. ROW 3: Jack Green, Nathan Baldwin, Shannon Jesse, Amanda Bohannon, Nicole Lutz, Kim Weis, Joe Esther, Lacy Friedrich and Jenny Terrell. ROW 4: Jake Vossenkemper, Nick Mussen, Chris Cadle, Nicole Fillion, Cara Wiese, Jon Burmeister, Adam Wilmes, John Scurlock and Eric Hogan. Back Row: Eric Hoffman, Charlie Reece, Rebecca Day, Tommy Campbell, Jason Gregory, David Gornel, Kyle Easley, Drew Lock, Bradley Trede and Adam Carlson.

- >Focused interest in agriculture
- >Sponsored Hay Rides and barnwarming dances.



Responsible actions

A young woman belted out Aretha Franklin's "R-E-S-P-E-C-T" with the assistance of a balding man's backup vocals and a middle-aged female dancer, bringing humor to the somber issue of sexual responsibility.

Respect was the key concept discussed at the "Respect Forum" in the Student Union Ballroom. The discussion began Sexual Awareness Week activities sponsored by Peer Education.

"Responsibility and respecting relationships is one of the foundations of relationships," Employee of the University Health Center Mike Maddock said. "We view this as being one part of the contribution to communication on campus as students go through their growth."

Associate Professor of Communication Roy Schwartzman discussed the rules of conflict in relationships by discouraging the audience from blaming themselves and to look at the situation objectively.

"If you run from the conflicts, you'll never get away from them and face differences," Schwartzman said.

Assistant to the President Angel Harris-Lewis discussed the legal points of sexual responsibility regarding consent.

"There's no imaginary line in the sex game that once you pass it you can't say no," Harris-Lewis said.

In order for legal consent, both parties must know what they were consenting to voluntarily, Harris-Lewis said.

Sexual Awareness Week offered several opportunities for students to learn about sexual responsibility.

"If you're gonna play, talk first" was one motivational message Assistant Director of University Health Care Virginia Murr initiated to the students. Question stations, miniature sports, information tables and skits were activities students competed in throughout the week to win prizes, candy and responsibility.

"Instead of running around just handing out condoms, we need to address the underlying issues," Murr said. "If there's no communication, there's no respect."



Sophomore, Carrie Myers talks with Virginia Murr about self-respect. "I did it because I thought my views could impact another person's feelings," Myers said. photo by Mike Dye

Ag Council

Front Row: Shannon Jesse, Jason Vandwort and Erica Scott. Row 2: Lacy Fredrich, Rick Aspegren, Clark Heman and Clint McCrea. Back Row: Lane Meyer and Tom Campbell.

>Sponsored Ag Council Banquet, FFA Contests and a benefit supper

Agronomy Club

Front Row: Colleen Olsen, Shannon Shineman, Jennifer Ellis and Tyler Mason. Row 2: Matt Schreiner, David Gomel and Rick Aspegren. Back Row: Nick Deimeke and Tom Campbell.

>Open to all students interested the science of crop production, soil management and environmental protection
>Involved with plant and soil mount slides
>attended regional and national SAS-ASA conventions

Alpha Mu Gamma/Phi Sigma Iota

Front Row: Mary Possung, Megan Koeteman, Dr. Louise Horner, Francisco Martinez and Juan Larrea. Back Row: Lisa Doudna, Malinda Bartholow, Anitra Genner, Sasha Eckstein, Brent Chappelow and Channing Horner.

- > Foreign language honor societies
- > Sponsored Fiesta de Culturas in February



Alpha Omega

Front Row: Josh Kleinlein, Sarah Baumgartner and Sara Young. Row 2: Bayo Oludaja, Jodi Victor, Julie Victor, Krystin Stubblefield. Back Row: Matthew Moncivais and Ben York.

- > Designed to stimulate spiritual growth among Greeks
- > Held weekly Bible studies and social events



Alpha Psi Omega

Front Row: Pamela Leung, Reid Kirchhoff and Randy Tilk.

- > Produced children's show entitled "The Imagination Station"

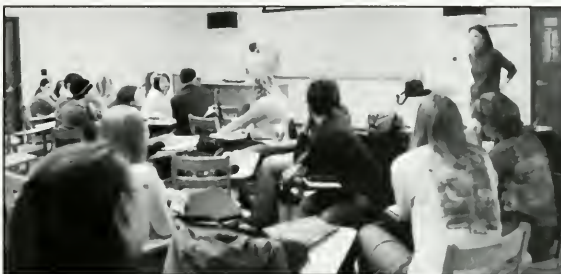


Alpha Tau Alpha

Front Row: Stephanie Schurer, Jennifer Kleeschulte and Rob Pangburn. Row 2: Laveda Broyles, Jessica Basinger, Elizabeth Harashe and Kyle Dignan. Back Row: Cara Wiese, Matthew A. Lundry and Matt Schruer.

- > Promoted professional improvements and leadership development of agricultural education majors
- > Participated in the Midway Conference





In an AdInk meeting, Jacque Lamer directs students on what kind of approaches to take for an advertising campaign for the state of Florida. Members practiced developing ads and building portfolios. photo by Mike Dye

Competitive campaign

Creativity flowed in a room filled with overwhelmed minds and research material. As the adviser stood back, students displayed ideas on the whiteboard to practice what would soon become their everyday life.

With a membership of nearly 50, the three-year-old advertising club AdInk offered guest speakers, trips to advertising agencies, professional help in preparing portfolios and innumerable internship opportunities.

"Student professional organizations like AdInk, because it allows the serious student the opportunity to apply not only the stuff they learned in the classrooms and laboratories but also collect insights from professionals," adviser Fred Lamer said.

Members of AdInk received a unique experience by competing in the American Advertising Federation's National Student Advertising Competition. After competing last year, the small group of competitors realized how much work it was to be in advertising.

In the competition, each team was assigned a client to prepare an ad campaign for. The university team was assigned to work for VISIT FLORIDA and spent the year researching various options to produce the most effective campaign. Once the research was completed, the team thought of concepts for the look and feel of the campaign to apply to their completed ads.

Senior Brant Miller estimated he spent between eight to 10 hours a week in research and the 20-person team spent around 200 hours.

"It's a lot of work, but it's really exciting," Miller said.

The team created a multimedia ad campaign including ads for TV, radio, magazines and billboards. Judges at the district competition, in Sioux City, Iowa, judged presentations by overall quality of the presentation, factual backup, slogan and why the team chose the particular target audience. Teams who won at districts progressed to the national level, and winners at nationals won the opportunity to do the ad campaign for their prospective clients. Although, the university team placed at the bottom of the charts but the experience gave them an idea of what to improve on.

A special studies class opened to help participants be more organized and better prepare for fall trimester. The class had 20 students who met twice a week. Advertising major Anne Gordon said some days it was like a regular class and other days they had visual aids and presentations.

"It was hard work, but it was also a lot of fun," Gordon said. "I leave here and I'm really excited because it's what I'll be doing in the real world."



American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Front Row: Angela Mutt, Stephanie Binal, Valerie Hookson, Jill Steens and Katie Peterson
Row 2: Christina Minor, Karamaneh Euler, Kristie Strueby, Melanie Lyon, Hali Sedlak and Nicole Meinke
Back Row: Angela Briggs, Emily Detmer, Meredith Forck, Anna Nabors, Allison Kahre, Claudia Gladstone, Heather Dennis and Mary Reil

- >Promoted the professional development of college students interested in the Family and Consumer Science Department
- >Participated in Operation Christmas Child and WiM conference



American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Front Row: Ashley Eickhoff, Diana Schnattenberger and Danielle Pattee-Merrill
Row 2: Brandon Robinett, Andrea Harrelson, Angela Van Boening and Rachael Collins
Back Row: Lavne Britton, Joev Rosenfelder and Nathan Bilk

- >Sponsored a rock and book sale
- >Took fieldtrips and visited national conventions.

American Marketing Association

Front Row: Mc Caren Delaney, Melissa McQueen, Natasha Beaulieu and Tiffany Baur.
Row 2: Jennifer Smith, Kristin Helmink, Keri Fairchild, Megan Prescott and Melissa Dusenbery. Back Row: Skylar Rolf, Emily Dix, Katie Tripp and Nick Talone.

- >Helped members obtain a greater understanding and appreciation of marketing skills
- >Hosted speakers to discuss the marketing world



Beta Beta Beta, Biological Society

Front Row: Amy Schuster, Rachel Pinney, David Farmer and Misty Avers. Back Row: Cortnee Vollers, Karen Schaffer and Cindy Campbell.

- >Sought to encourage scholarship in the field of learning by reserving its active membership for those who achieved superior academic records, and indicated special interest in the life sciences
- >Sponsored Science Olympiad



Blue Key National Honor Fraternity

Front Row: LaBebe Nickell, Jamie Knierm, Julie Victor and Megan Peterson. Back Row: J. Pat McLaughlin, Josh Lamberson, Nicole Buners, Emily Dix and Troy Tysdahl.

- >Recognized student leaders on campus
- >Sponsored Tower Queen and participated in Trick-or-Treat for the United Way



Criminal Justice Club

Front Row: Kurt Schmutzler and Samara Cobb. Back Row: Brittanie Kraus and Melanie Bucy.

- >Educated members about the proceedings of the criminal justice system
- >Participated in volunteer programs and tutored children from Maryville's Middle School



Cultural Exchange Club

by Megan Heuer

Diverse encounter

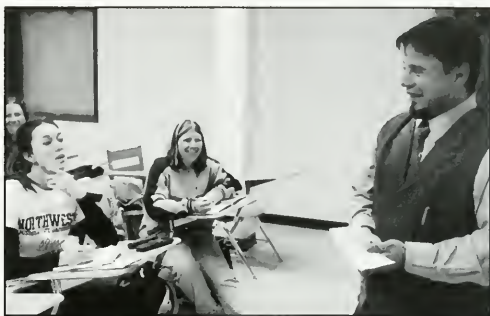
Sombreros and salsa music filled their dreams each night as a flight to Mexico drew closer each month of warmer weather.

The Cultural Exchange Club spent the spring trimester fundraising for their 15-day trip to Mexico. The organization encouraged travel to other countries to broaden cultural knowledge and experience. Cultural Exchange sponsor Francisco "Paco" Martinez dared to take the 15 female club members to 12 Mexican cities.

CEC member Anitra Germer said the club worked hard fundraising money for the educational opportunity.

The women agreed Martinez made the club a learning activity. Elizabeth Ramirez said he made her confident to communicate, even if she didn't speak the language fluently.

Along with attending social events, the trip itinerary would include visiting churches, museums and ancient Indian ruins as



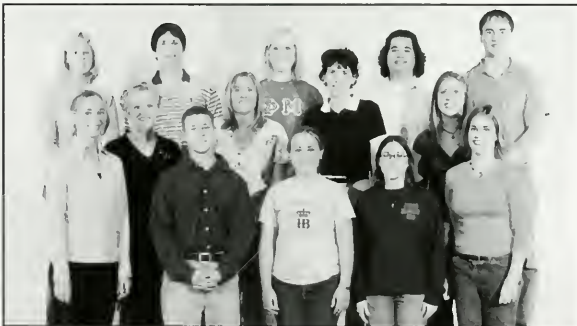
Deidra Bridger (left) and Karissa Gaskill (right) listen to Cultural Exchange Club adviser Francisco "Paco" Martinez about a trip to Mexico. Bridger and Gaskill were two members that helped other students build better relations with people from different cultures and ethnicities. photo by Mike Dye

well as a bullfight, a spa, a textile industry, a soccer game and a school.

"We are going to be learning through seeing things first hand, which always is a lot nicer than just having a teacher lecture," member Karissa Gaskill said.

Ramirez looked forward to seeing Mexican architecture, people interaction and art. As the third generation of her family to live in the United States, Ramirez looked forward to visiting an uncle who remained in Mexico City.

"I have always been excited about learning new things about different ethnic backgrounds and cultures," Ramirez said. "This is just another way for me to get to know more background about my heritage."



Delta Mu Delta

Front Row: Valerie Lemke, Andrew Turner, Melissa Elliot, Jamie Knerim and Sarah Zuerlein. Row 2: Kati Frerking, Cindy Kenkel, Joni Adkins and Kerra Siefering. Back Row: Cathu Skeen, Josh Williams, Emily Dix, Sarah Strough and Ryan Lidolph.

- >National honor society for business administration
- >Requirements included junior status and in the upper 20 percent of their class.



Delta Tau Alpha

Front Row: Tammy Kreifels, Tarryn Dicke and Jennifer Jensen. Row 2: Tisha Hotme, Tyler Rolotson, Troy Tague and Daniel Comes.

- >Agricultural Honor Society
- >Participated with bull scale and state grown food product display

DigEM

Front Row: Jaehee Kim and Mary Jesutis. Back Row: Larry Vavrick, Jordan Starr and Stephanie McCoy.

- > Provided students the opportunity to develop their skills and network with professionals
- > Sponsored a book sale



Financial Management Association

Front Row: Melissa Elliot, Njawa JJ Mulwanda, Kari Frerking and Anthony Gulizia. Row 2: Michelle Eischeid, Anvar Gabidouline, Jill Awtry, Molly Guianchino and Chris Holder. Back Row: Ross Crouch, Brian Duering and Nicholas Hellbusch.

- > Developed relationships with financial practitioners and to encourage the free exchange of ideas, techniques and advances in the field
- > Sponsored a Pumpkin carving contest, personal finance presentations and finance leaders conference



Flag Corps

Front Row: Hayley Leonard, Tara Epperson, Charlotte Jorgensen, Merideth Moody and Alea Gorrell. Back Row: Andrea Kelley, Jennifer Cameron, Rachel Andorfer, Krysten Miller and Erin Buck.

- > Performed at all home football games during halftime



Forensics

Front Row: Nicole Brown, Bethany Murphey, Merc M. Decker and Laci Ann Fiala. Row 2: Katrina Kim Meyer, Sandra J. Douglas, David Carr and Kevin Rotert. Back Row: David Tibbles, Stephanie M. Furtle, Tyler Sidwell and Mark Parra.

- > Traveled to tournaments in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma
- > Hosted a tournament with Longview Community College



Club rocks accessories

Armed with a hot glue gun, super glue and a magnet, creative imaginations fabricated jewelry and keychains out of solidified rocks and minerals.

With a membership of more than 25, the Geo Club joined with the Greek academic geology organization, Sigma Gamma Epsilon, to begin a new fund-raiser.

The "Groundhog Dogs and Jewelry Sale" began Feb. 2 in the main lobby of Garrett-Strong Science Building.

Organized by 12 club members, chili dogs, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, magnets and keychains were sold. Geo Club member Laura Villines believed the fund-raiser brought a bigger crowd because of the unique event.

"Usually, the other fund-raisers don't deal with food. This one is more creative," Villines said. "We're hoping to get people interested in Geo Club. This is a good way to extra funds and recognition of who we are."

The road to the fund-raiser debut proved rocky. Villines said getting everybody together was a problem but that a nice chunk of jewelry was created.

The week prior to the event, the 12 members who organized the event spent a few hours each night creating the supply of jewelry.

According to President Rachael Collins, the cold snowy weather helped boost sales since food was available in the lobby. The success elevated not only the anticipations of the event but also clubs funds.

"The first couple of days were great, since the chili dogs were a success. We were surprised by the popularity of our new idea," Villines said. "We have made a good profit for our fund-raiser." Other fund-raisers organized by the Geo Club yielded success in years past.

Unused materials and textbooks were sold at a rock and book sale co-sponsored by Sigma Gamma Epsilon and Geo Club which raised money to provide gifts students presented to faculty during the geology/geography faculty banquet.

In addition to selling books, the Geo Club sponsored a Love Rock sale for Valentine's Day and a "Minerals Used in Teaching" exhibition at the Kansas City Rock and Mineral Show.



Layne Britton paints rocks for the annual love-rock show. The geo club spent about eight hours preparing the show to raise funds. photo by Mike Dye

Gamma Theta Upsilon

Front Row: Steph Smith and Dave Nelson. Back Row: Angee Van Boening, Andrew Jackson, Danelle Biermann and Diana Schnarrenberger.

- >Attempted to further professional status of geography
- >Worked with RHA and volunteered for BRUSH



Geo Club

Front Row: Dave Nelson, Steph Smith, Katie Owens, Diana Schnarrenberger and Laura Villines. Row 2: Layne Britton, Brandon Robynett, Ashley Eickhoff, Andrea Hartsel, Angela Van Boening and Rachael Collins. Back Row: Andrea Kellner, Joey Rosenfelder and Nathan Bilke.

- >Provided academic and social activities in geology/geography.
- >Sponsored a rock and book sale, a love rock sale and field trips





HPERD members Jamie Appleberry and Amber Blanchard play a game to meet new members. HPERD club coordinated a university Health Fair. photo by Mike Dye

HPERD Club

by Alan Hargreaves

Physical awareness

HPERD sought to enhance student educational experience by offering a variety of opportunities outside the classroom and travel across the United States.

Club membership stayed at more than 50 each year, but according to faculty adviser Terry Long, it was much more than numbers.

"(The club's purpose) is to provide professional and personal growth opportunities for the students majoring in Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance" Long said.

Junior Adam Nelson had been involved in HPERD for three years.

"It's a way that everyone in the department can come together to learn what each field is doing," Nelson said.

Senior Amber Blanchard said professional contacts and internship opportunities were available via state and national conferences. Blanchard attended two conferences last year in Wisconsin and St. Louis.

"Overall, I would say the experience was extremely beneficial," Blanchard said. "I learned new activities to do with disabled patients."

Blanchard said most of the new activities were in the form of games.

HPERD members volunteered their time to earn points that would later reimburse them for travel expenses to conferences. Volunteer work included a scavenger hunt food drive to donate food to the Ministry Center.

"The HPERD club helps foster the idea that you can make a difference in your profession," Long said. "We like for our students to have a sense that they are contributors to their field, not just members."

Heartland View Online

Front Row: Stephanie McCoy, Amber Brazil and Jordan Starr. Back Row: Larry Vavrick, Melissa Galitt, Mary Jesantis and Shannon Polaski.

>Online travel magazine covering Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska highlights





HPERD Club

Front Row: Angie Shields, Amber Blanchard and Megan Leif. Back Row: Adriane Hunt, Desirae Boye and Kimberly Dimmitt.

- >For students with a major or minor in health, physical education, recreation or dance
- >Took football tickets and ushered at home games



Kappa Omicron Nu

Front Row: Emily Dettmer, Keri Crawford, Becky Gibson, Jessica Hoffecker, Mary Lenzen and Sarah Heller. Row 2: Christina Minor, Gelina Fontaine, Katie Peterson, Crystal Pester and Kathryn Morgan. Back Row: Jennifer Gries, Stephanie Bizal, Anna Nabors, Jill Stiens, Heather Dennis, Claudia Glastone and Mary Reil.

- >National honor society for Family and Consumer Science majors
- >Sponsored a FCS banquet and held inductions



Lambda Pi Eta

Front Row: Keely Burns, Lindsay Geier, Laci Ann Fiala and Carby Paus. Row 2: Shannon Meister, Sarah Pfaltzgraff, Pam Marticke, Kim Campbell and Travis Lane. Back Row: Carrie Johnson, Clinton Simpson, Tricia Rummer and Bayo Oludaja.

- >National scholastic honorary for students either majoring or minoring in communications
- >Sponsored tutoring sessions around the community



Student Dietetic Association

Front Row: Stefanie Meighen, Jill Stiens, Grace Johnson and Robesta Thompson. Back Row: Ryan Williams, Jennifer Taber, Anita Coleman, Mary Reil and Katie Krobbe.

- >Worked with the community to spread awareness about dietetics
- >Participated in the Missouri and American Dietetic Association Conference

Public Relations Student Society of America

by Diana Hendricks

Experience drives success

PRSSA meant more to students than writing press releases and holding fund-raisers. The organization linked them to the real world.

The Public Relations Student Society of America allowed public relations majors and minors to receive job experience.

"It's a professional organization, that can help you learn about getting a job and help you get a job," President Carrie Johnson said.

Johnson believed public relations was a major unknown to many students and unique because it opened doors and opportunities other organizations didn't make available.

Every trimester, PRSSA members planned conferences and trips for students interested in communications and marketing. During the spring trimester, the group planned a trip to Kansas City, Mo. and visited a printer to view the process public relations specialists go through to order brochures and posters.

Following the printer, guest speakers shared their career experiences with students. Later, they had the opportunity to network with alumni at a cocktail hour held on the Country Club Plaza.

Faculty sponsor Melody Hubbard believed PRSSA was a great organization for all communications and marketing majors and minors to get involved with.

"I think for one thing, it's important to get to know other majors on a social level," Hubbard said. "Besides, PRSSA offers a lot of things you don't get in a classroom. It's an expansion of your curriculum."



PRSSA members Rachel Chase and Kelly Smith, socialize before the meeting. There were more than 5,000 students in approximately 200 chapters in the Public Relations Student Society of America. *photo by Mike Dye*

Omicron Delta Kappa

Front Row: Josh Kleinlein, Beth Lilly, Elizabeth Millang, Monica Marcolino and Megan Koerteman. Row 2: Jarrod Smith, Cara Wiese, Valerie Lemke, Natalie Arnold, Cathy Pass and Michelle Stacy. Back Row: Kevin Pitts, Lisa Doudna, Carrie Johnson, Melissa Masek and Amy Meyer.

>National leadership honorary



Organizational Communication Student Association

Front Row: Travis Lane, Jenny Lewis, Tricia Rummer and Pam Marticke. Back Row: Matt Walker, Keely Burns, Clinton Simpson and Bayo Oludaja.

>Helped students prepare for graduate school in the field of communication

>Took various field trips throughout the year





Pi Omega Pi

Front Row: Andrea Collins, Nancy Zelfi and Lindsay Frerking.

- >National business honor society that honored students with high scholastic ability in business education
- >Sponsored a 4-H computer workshop day



Pre-Med Professional Club

Front Row: Rachel Taylor, Katrina Simmons, Cindy Campbell, Varunjeep Rakhra, Amber Stevens, Amy Schuster, Jamie Minks, Anitra Wilson, Lindsey Cherne and Theresa Wilshusen. Row 2: Jordan Clark, Letrisha Nelson, Lacy Sharr, Angela Posten, Cortnee Vollers, Millicent Seek, Del Rae Heinle, Jonathan Lowrey, Jessica Hilsaheck, Kristie Egan and Patrick Brommer. Row 3: Dana Estes, Diedre Kent, Rachel Neil, Megan Crawford, Rachel Pinney, Tammy Kreitels, Sarah Daniels, Jenna Cook, Jordan Logston, Eric J. Buckley. Back Row: Megan Wilmes, Leah Leusehke, Megan Ferguson, Megan Moore, Nicole Hostet, Christopher Wistrom, Michel Jelavich, Cody Kenkel, Russell Crotty, Daniel Florence and Andy Brown.

- >Designed to introduce students to various health related fields
- >Co-sponsored Science Olympiad



Pre-Law Society

Front Row: Janson M. Thomas and Jared Weber

- >Promoted the qualities students needed to be successful in law school
- >Discussed the aspects of law school admission



Public Relations Student Society of America

Front Row: Keely Burns, Sandy Schroeder, Jenny Lewis and Erin Sweatman. Row 2: Lindsay Niemeyer, Shannon Meister, Kim Campbell and Heather Fisher. Back Row: Carrie Johnson, Lindsay Geier, John Fisher and Cathy Paus.

- >National student-run organization with more than 5,000 members nation wide
- >Sponsored a fall conference with public relation specialist

Channels of occupation

Fliers and brochures surrounded the dimly lit room as people dressed in business attire meandered around, gathering information.

The Psychology/Sociology Graduate Fair provided students the opportunity to become more comfortable with the next step regarding the fields of the helping professions.

Mary Burgess, along with other students and faculty, organized the Graduate Student Information Conference sponsored by the Psychology/Sociology Society.

Graduate school hopefuls gathered in the Student Union Ballroom to listen to peer, teacher and professionals' tips on the graduate school process.

"It gave students more information on graduate school so they know what's out there," Lesley Paalhar said.

Speakers explained to students how to conquer the step-by-step processes of graduate school.

University counselor Susan Reynolds told students about the Graduation Record Examinations and how to prepare. The G.R.E. was an entrance exam, much like the ACT/SAT, students must pass to enter graduate school.

Psychology, sociology and counseling department chair Jerrod Barnett shared with students the application process for graduate school. After students completed the traditional four-year program at a college or university, they spent two to three years working on



Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Science Lauren Leach talks with Kinsey Acklin and Megan Fisher about graduate school at a Psychology Sociology Convention. The society had different guest speakers and field trips to inform members about psychology and sociology. photo by Jamie Kelly

their master's degree. After this, students chose between Psy. D. or Ph.D. for their two to four year doctorate program.

"It's very overwhelming," Burgess said. "There are a lot of different parts to complete to get into graduate school. Then, you go through the hoops of graduate school and after that you find yourself just starting out in the work force."

Several speakers shared information with students regarding personal goal statements, which were written resumes in the graduate school application where students talked about personal achievements.

Students also received tips on vitas, resumes and the interviewing process.

Representatives from Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska colleges and universities spoke to the students about psychology and sociology graduate programs available.

"This fair is an outlet for graduate schools," Paul Ascherman said. "It's a good way for students to get the contacts they need."

Psi Chi

Front Row: Mary E. Burgess, Anita Wilson and Amber Mikulich. Row 2: Nicole Baxley, Carla Keller, Shelby Bartels, Nicole Bowers and Cayla Blunk.

>Promoted psychology through public awareness, societal contributions and leadership skills



Psychology/Sociology Society

Front Row: Carla Edwards, Paul Ascherman, Katy Laswell, Mary Burgess, Megan Fisher and Cayla Blunk. Row 2: Deanna Allen, Jenna Dey, Liz Vostret, Stacey Shanks, Carla Keller, Adam Schneider, Stella Wolfe, Sarah Beggs and Audrey Caldwell. Back Row: Debra Rosser, Krystle Smith, Amber Mikulich, Jennifer Sander, Krista Martine, Jasmine Strlson, Cassandra James and Keith Loeschner.

>Designed to inform students about psychology and sociology
>Hosted graduate program conference



Sigma Gamma Epsilon

Front Row: Ashley Eickhoff, Diana Schnarrenberger and Laura Villnes Row 2: Brandon Robnett, Andrea Harrelson, Angela Van Boening and Rachael Collins Back Row: Andrea Kellner, Joey Rosenfelder and Nathan Bilke

- >Professional earth science honorary
- >Sponsored the "Geek Card" fund-raiser, rock and book sale and Earth Week

Sigma Pi Sigma

Front Row: Jamie Knerim, Kristin Helmank, Chris Healy, Dianne Schlomer and Rebecca Schelp Row 2: Amanda Tabler, Ashlee Freeman, Emily Meggers, Jennifer Schultes, Sara Chamberlain, Amanda Duncan and Shera Barton Back Row: Kerra Sieferring, Chris Pelham, Theresa Chiodini, Brandon Rockhold, Brent Chappelow, Steve Shively and Nancy Mayer

- >Honor society designed to honor recipients of the Presidential and Martin Luther King Scholarships
- >Sponsored autism fund-raisers

Sigma Tau Delta

Front Row: Hannah Taylor, Kelly Peterson, Ashlee Erwin and Brandon Rold Back Row: Chanda Funston, Laura Pearl, Jessica Lane and DaNelle Brouse

- >International English honor society focused on the opportunity to further culture, ethical principles and develop skills in creative and critical writing
- >Sponsored a book and bake sale

Society for Human Resource Management

Front Row: Cindy Kenkel, Nicole Goldstein, Sarah Beggs and Kerra Sieferring Back Row: Cathi Skeen, Natasha Beaulieu, Elizabeth Varman, Sarah Cole and Aaron Bunch

- >Held resume building workshops and sponsored human resource speakers
- >Job shadowed professionals in the field of Human Resources

Dedication in small numbers

Under hot lights the actors began to move and the film rolled.



Director Greg Smith and actor Evan Ross run lines from the movie "Scooby Doo." Ross played the character Fred.
photo by Mike Dye

In past years, the group Vinci cranked out movies on a consistent basis to fill up KNWT programming. In the fall trimester TV programming was a grind from start to finish for the group.

"It was a huge adjustment," Kristen Edwards said. "When Justin Ross (the previous president had taken over last year and the year before, it was much more of a social group where people would come in and have a soda and cookies and talk about things, maybe look into what movie were being made. This year, there weren't as many people there, but I would say, the people there were more driven."

The shortage of members forced an unfamiliar site for KNWT viewers during the spring trimester because Vinci was replaced in the lineup. The sabbatical was not a bad thing, Edwards said it gave the group a chance to put out a better product and improve their reputation.

"It was something that had to be done as far as scheduling and everyone's stress levels were concerned," Edwards said.

Edwards hoped a few more members would become involved with the improved quality programming.

"I would love having new members," Edwards said. "It is always great having fresh, new ideas."

A more organized process, better produced shows and an influx of new members, who knew what they wanted to do, were co-producer Jason Craine's goals for the group.

The group taped two movies that aired in the fall. One student-written project told of a troll that lived under the Kissing Bridge and was taped in a documentary format. Another was a Scooby Doo spoof on the KNWT laser problem that created havoc.

The 15 member group met Wednesday nights in the Student Union and discussed projects that they worked on and made plans for future projects. Edwards said being a part of that group was rewarding and gave her a chance to do some experimenting.

"It was kind of like having an at-home chemistry lab with no instructions," Edwards said. "If you do it right everything goes fine, if you don't, something blows up and you get in trouble for it. Overall, I learned something new everyday, and I loved the experience."

Ross introduced Craine to the group and formed a friendship with him that led to his current role.

"We both shared a passion for it," Craine said. "I liked being able to push the envelope with filming techniques and working with new staff members to help them figure out what they wanted to do."

Society of Professional Journalists

Front Row: Megan Heuer, Melissa Galitz, Kara Swink, Abby Simons and Michelle Stacy. Row 2: Michael Dye, Ben Nielson, Stephanie Suckow and Clark Grell. Back Row: Janea Philip, Brent Burkland, Trevor Hayes, Joni Willingham and Matt Monicvais.

- >Provided an environment for the professional enhancement of the distribution of the media
- >The group sponsored forums and did community service



Students in Free Enterprise

Front Row: Brooke Sasser, Melissa Elliot, Kari Frerking and Jill Awtrv. Row 2: Brian Duening, Njawa JJ Mulwanda and Molly Gianchino. Back Row: Nizar M. Azarkane, Arwar Gabidouline, Anthony Gulizia and Chris Holder.

- >Outreach program that educated students on the principles of entrepreneurship, free enterprise and market economics
- >Sponsored business ethics speaker and a globalization debate



Student Missouri State Teachers Association

Front Row: Amanda Baker, Becky Wand, Megan Whitten, Betsy Williams, Amy Carr, Anitra Germer, Amanda Gardner, Elizabeth Stehly, Kathryn Chamberlain and Evie Baxter. Row 2: Eric Morrow, Andrey Turner, Kristy Wheeler, Malinda Bartholaw, Dawn Peterson, Michelle Stumph, Patricia Harrison, Sarah Whithorn, Lydia Alderton, Eric Spegal and Alexandra Heerlein. Back Row: Jeannie Schatter, Erin Zimmerschild, Brenda Leap, Laura DeLong, Kristina Olms, Crystal Hart, Louisa Valader, Andrea Messick, Molly Miller and Gary Howren.

- >Pre-professional organization dedicated to preparing education majors for the classroom
- >Sponsored literacy night, book fairs and science night

Tower Yearbook

Front Row: Hitomi Koyama, Alexis Hejna, Kara Swink, Amber Brazil and Theresa Chodini. Row 2: Michelle Stacy, Shannon Meister, Joni Willingham, Jessica Schmidt, Megan Heuer, Laura Jeck, Sara Ruzicka and Tattannia Johnson. Back Row: Matt Hays, Ryan Delehant, Michael Dye, April Haslay, Melissa Galtz, Trevor Hayes, Brent Burkland and Justin Bush.

- >Covered campus and community events.
- >Crown finalist and All-American award winner

United States Institute for Theatre Technology

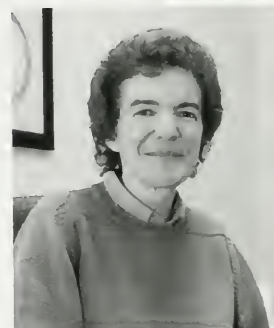
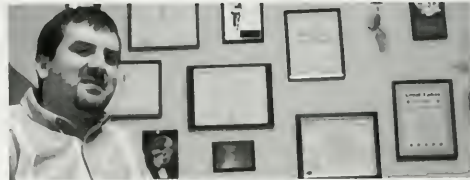
Front Row: Mike Vertako, Teri Holliday and Pamela Leung. Row 2: Rachel Lambert, Bridget Brown, Stephanie Trester and Nick Del Signore. Back Row: Daniel Ayers and Jesi Lambert.

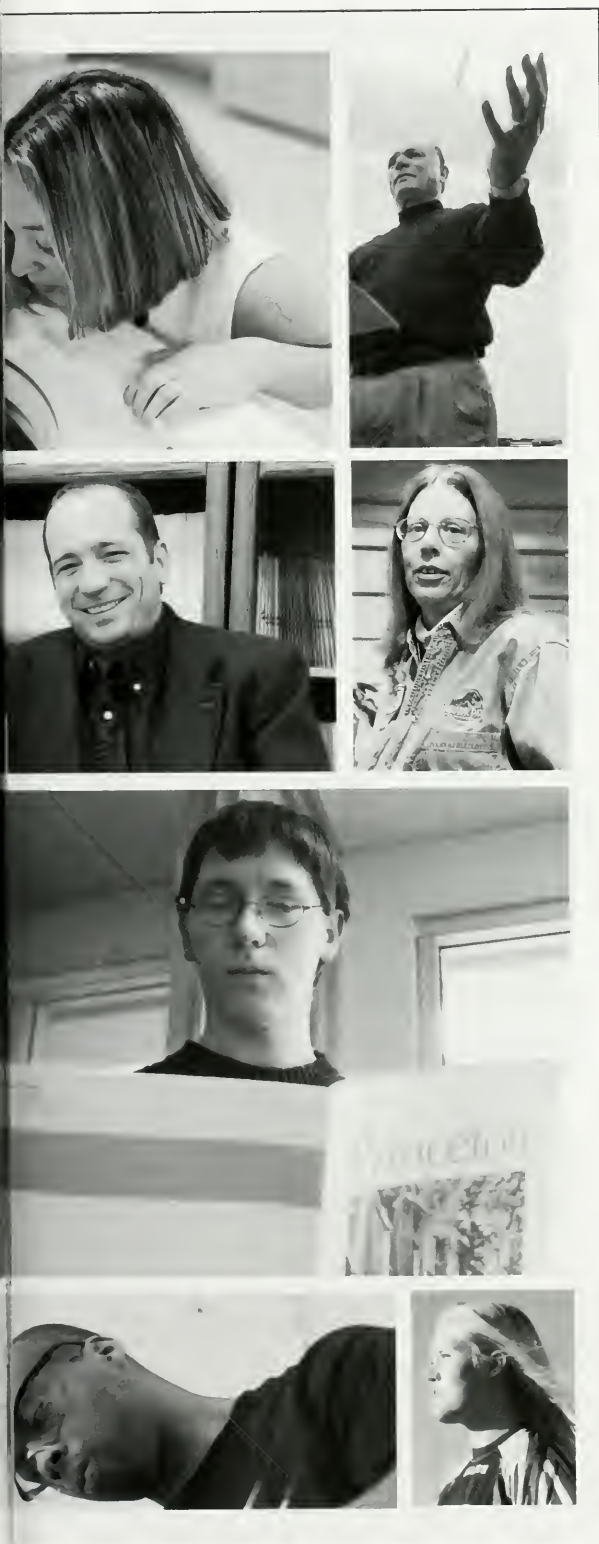
- >Supported the advancement of technology as it applied to the theater and aimed toward education
- >Sponsored a dance concert and theater workshops

Vinci

Front Row: Kristen Edwards, Mary Matson, Gary Robnett and Grand Howard. Row 2: Elena Smith-Mattner, Jacqueline Powers, Alexis Hejna and Ryan Sweeton. Row 3: Gregory Smith, Sara Arnold, Joni Willingham, Sarah Teubner and Cody Fry. Back Row: Travis Stull, Nick Watson, Ali Bergmaur, Jeff LaPlant and Sean Comer.

- >Broadcasting organization that produced movies and films for the university TV station KNWT
- >Sponsored Vinci Awards





Growing into professionals, the faces of campus formulated the identity of the university.

Growth

Securing the status of our sports teams, you withstood pain, injuries and hectic schedules.

Travels took you to Japan teaching American customs to another culture and to Princeton in hopes of planning further education. Meanwhile, professors made plans to improve academic programs.

Plagued with financial troubles, you worked three jobs to stay in school and sacrificed your passions.

Differing characteristics of people prompted your creative outlets. Experiences with others influenced your poetry, art and musical performances.

You broke the mold of traditional students. Situations that could have hindered your future, blossomed into character building experiences.

Your individual characteristics influenced the actions of others on campus and molded future traditions.

Identity

Prominent faces define university traditions and future movements. The identity of each individual involved with campus life aided growth and transition. photo illustration by Mike Dye

Acceptance embraces inner peace

Phillip Holthus

Finding a university where he could be comfortable with his lifestyle mattered to him. The welcoming environment of the Fine Arts department finalized his decision to come out with his homosexuality.

Phillip Holthus, a senior, vocal music major with certification in instrumental, revealed he was gay his junior year of high school after attending a music camp at Northwest.

"A week after show choir camp, I decided to come out, because the Fine Arts people are very liberal here," Holthus said. "They showed me that it doesn't matter who you are or who you love. As long as you are loving someone, not hating, is the main thing."

Coming out relieved Holthus because he said mentally he couldn't handle it. He also needed to let others know homosexuals we're real, normal people. He wanted them to see homosexuality as just an aspect of personality.

However, some members of his hometown community in Seward, Neb., did not view it that way. Holthus, who once had a strong Christian faith, faced hostility by his church. According to Holthus, they would still allow him to attend but wouldn't let him acknowledge his homosexuality there.

"It shattered my faith," Holthus said. "That's a lot of faith to shatter when I was going to be celibate and a director of Christian education."

That's when he decided music as a career choice, as he'd been heavily involved in it through high school.

"Music is a way to connect with the entire world," Holthus said. "Music lets you be sympathetic, and if you're not sympathetic, you are simply pathetic."

He believed the university culture, where others were like him and people accepted his way of life, would be a great place to obtain an education.

While changing his future goals, he also dealt with his family's reaction.

"I didn't need to, but my mother made me go to counseling to try and make me not gay," Holthus said. "She was going



Phillip Holthus finds comfort surrounding himself with the liberal, Fine Arts family. Growing up in a conservative hometown, Holthus struggled with his sexuality and religion. *photo by Mike Dye*

to make me go to a 'don't be gay' school called Exodus International in North Carolina."

His mother chose not to send him to the school when Holthus rebutted with, "Mother, me and 500 other gay guys; do you really think it's going to make me straight?"

As Holthus proceeded through college, he said his mother dealt with the fact he was gay but not that he dated. In the fall, he had to "lay the bombshell" that he was getting engaged to his live-in boyfriend. He said his father just ignored the situation, and his older sister didn't approve but accepted.

With all he went through in coming out, Holthus never did completely reinstate his religious faith.

"I believe in the possibility of something out there, but I don't go to church unless I'm singing with the university," Holthus said. "Maybe someday my faith will be restored, but as of right now, I'm perfectly comfortable with sleeping in Sunday mornings."



Academy

Front Row: Diana Schmitz, Ed Farquhar and Lacey Supinger. Row 2: Lisa Carnico, Jillian Pointer and Becky Troyer. Row 3: Jaclyn Smith, Toni Mackey and Doug Daubert. Row 4: Terry King, Neal Davis and Bob Theodore. Back Row: Lori Kelley, William Perkins and Robert Bryant.



Agriculture

Front Row: Harold Brown, Rod Barr, Jeni Vogel and Jamie Patten. Back Row: Arley Larson, Denise Padgett, Rego Jones and Rich Blackburn.



Ackerman, Derek
Adams, Kristina, Elementary Education
Alderton, Lydia, Elementary Education
Anne-Laure, Cahana, Public Administration
Antidell, Amanda, M.I.S.



Ashbacher, Anna, Industrial Psychology
Awtriv, Jill, Marketing & Business Management
Barbour, Kristin, O.I.S.
Barrett, Jr., John S., Agricultural Business
Bartel, Andrea, Industrial Psychology



Bartels, Shelby, Psychology
Bartholow, Mahinda, Education/ Spanish
Basinger, Jessica, Agricultural Education
Baxley, Nicole, Psychology/ Sociology
Baxter, Evalyne, Public Administration



Beavers, Robert, Idm-Visual Image
Beggs, Sarah, Industrial Psychology
Belton, Katie, Accounting
Biermann, Danelle, Geography
Blocher, Amy, M.I.S.



Blocher, Becky
Blume, Kellie, Elementary Education
Blunk, Cayla, Psychology/ Sociology
Boden, Nicholas, Marketing & Business Management
Boedcker, Ricky, Elementary Education



Bolles, Shawna, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
Bramlage, Angela, Advertising
Brawner, Scott, Horticulture/ Agronomy
Brazil, Amber, Journalism
Brockman, Tom, Instrumental Music Education

Brown, Allison, Psychology/ Sociology
 Brumm, Lisa, Child & Family Studies
 Brunkhorst, Randa, Animal Science/ Agriculture
 Business
 Bucklev, Eric, Pre-Medicine Studies
 Buckner, Marcy, Accounting



Bull, Atton, Business Management
 Burgess, Mary, Psychology/ Sociology
 Burnmeister, Jon, Animal Science
 Burroughs, David, Business
 Caldwell, Angie, Elementary Education



Caldwell, Monica, Journalism
 Cameron, Jennifer
 Campbell, Cindy, Pre-Professional Zoology
 Campbell, Tommy, Agronomy
 Cantrell, Colby, Elementary Education



Carkeek, Tracy, Elementary Education/ C.C.S Ed.
 Carlin, Jon, Business Management
 Carpenter, Shaun
 Carver, Elizabeth
 Caton, Darby, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation



Chadwick, Candi, Public Administration
 Chervik, Nathan, Idm-Visual Image
 Chopra, Sumit, Finance
 Christensen, Cortnee, M.I.S.
 Ciaramitaro, William, Physics



Clark, Jacqueline, Social Science/ Secondary
 Education
 Clark, Jordan, Pre-Professional Zoology
 Cobb, Samara, Political Science
 Coleman, Callie, Elementary Education/ C.C.S Ed.
 Collins, Andrea, Middle School Education



Connection

cues communication

Education guided her to New York City, but the city offered Jennifer Wells an opportunity she couldn't pass up.

Wells didn't close herself off from new experiences. So, when the broadcasting major received the opportunity to take an internship in the Big Apple, she eagerly accepted.

"If a new opportunity was to present itself and I was in the middle of something else, I would take the fork in the road," Wells said.

Wells was determined to always try new things and said it came from being passionate about what she loved. Her love for music and broadcasting intertwined throughout her life.

"Music is a means of communication," Wells said. "It gives me a different outlook on things, and I don't have to think about anything but the music."

Wells' first love, music, began in childhood as her mother played the piano, and her father played the guitar. Following their cue, she played the violin and the string bass.

Her second love, broadcasting allowed her to serve as the promotions director at KNWT, the university's student-run TV station. Balancing broadcasting work with her musical background proved to be a combination that fit.

"Music and broadcasting are actually a lot alike," Wells said. "First you have a creative vision, then you develop it and then you get to share the creative product with everyone."

Wells shared her creative side with more than just the Maryville community during the summer of 2003. She received an internship to film, produce, edit and report on the TV show Subway Q&A. It was a comedy show where they interviewed the average New Yorker on random topics.

Wells lived in a studio apartment on the Upper West Side and worked in an office building near Madison Square Garden, the heart of New York City.

"When I first got there, it was hard to decide what to do first," Wells said. "Coming from a small town like Maryville and then going to a huge place like New York is very shocking. The people there are a lot different than the people here. You don't make eye contact with anyone. You walk down the street and mind your own business."

Wells did, however, make a connection though with New York's music scene. One evening, while at a nightclub listening to a jazz band, the group randomly asked her to play with them. Wells said she jumped at the chance, because she couldn't pass up the "awesome" opportunity.

Wells said her passions have combined with her drive and determination to make life a positive outcome everyday.

Jennifer Wells' love of music found its way to the sidewalks of New York City during her summer internship. After her experience in the Big Apple, she planned to move there. photo by Mike Dye



Jennifer Wells

Collins, Christine, Biology/ Psychology
 Collins, Rachael, Geology
 Comes, Daniel, Agricultural Business
 Cook, Jenna, Pre-Professional Zoology
 Copple, Amber, Elementary Education/ C.C.S. Ed.



Counihan, Sean, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation
 Cox, Lisa, Public Relations
 Cradick, Summer, Advertising
 Crane, Sharon, Psychology
 Crawford, Keri, Merchandising



Criener, Tiffany, Child & Family Studies
 Cumiale, Christine, Agricultural Business/
 Education
 Cunningham, Ashley, English
 Cunningham, Brian, Management
 Decker, Merci, Speech & Organizational
 Communications



Deimeke, Nick, Agronomy
 Delaney, McCarten, Marketing & Business
 Management
 Demir, Sibel, Finance/ Business Management
 Dencklau, Danielle
 Deperalta, Ebony, Vocal Music Education



Detmer, Emily, Merchandising Textiles-Apparel &
 Furnish
 Dicke, Tarryn, Agricultural Business
 Diego, Larrea
 Dimmitt, Kimberly, Therapeutic & Corporate
 Recreation
 Dix, Emily, Marketing & Business Management



Obstacles **outgrown**

by JAMES H. COOPER

Entering the restaurant with her date, the 20-year-old corrected the waiter when he grabbed the children's menu and crayons for her.

Sophomore Emily Sims just laughed off the situation. Noticeably easy-going and taking it in stride, she didn't care she wasn't tall enough to ride the rollercoasters at Worlds of Fun. Size two shoes were cheaper anyway.

Sims stood at 4 feet 2 inches, the same height she had been since eighth grade. Rather than viewing this as a disadvantage, Sims always tried to see the silver lining.

"Being short bugs me sometimes, but I just find ways to deal with it," Sims said. "I don't feel limited at all, so I don't think that way."

When people asked Sims why she was short, she replied with, "It's genetics; my parents are short." She didn't feel as if she needed to go into detail. Her mother stood at 5 feet 5 inches and her father at 5 feet 4 inches.

In addition to having shorter parents, Sims also had Noonan Syndrome, which doctor's diagnosed her with at age 16. Sims acquired some symptoms, including short stature and pulmonary stenosis, a heart condition caused by closed valves. At three years old, she had a balloon catheter surgically implanted, which had to be checked every two years.

Born as a normal sized infant, the short stature wasn't discovered until third grade, when she noticed everyone else growing taller while she didn't. In middle school, she tried growth hormone therapy shots for two years. The hormones, however, didn't help as doctors discovered she did not lack the growth hormone, but a hormone in the brain that connected to it.

Sims reached her tallest height in her pre-teens. Though the adolescence period invited judgment, she did not feel picked on.

"I got the occasional teasing like everyone else, but for the most part, people didn't say much," Sims said. "I was friends with most anyway."

When entering college, Sims surrounded herself with more friends she could joke with about her height. Giving her the nickname of "Mini Me," Sims said she'd heard every short person joke in the book.

"My friends tease me, but I don't take it as a personal attack on me," Sims said. "I would laugh at me too. I have no problem joking. I like being short. It's the only thing I've ever known."

Being short her whole life, Sims learned to adjust. When shopping for clothes, she tried to find children's apparel that looked mature. When eating at Bobby's Grill in the Student Union, she had friends grab her plate from the top shelf. As for driving, \$300 custom made extensions allowed her to reach the pedals.

"No one can steal my car because they can't drive the sucker!" Sims said.

Other than minor tweaking, Sims lived life as any normal college student. As part of her elementary education major she volunteered at Head Start preschool four days a week.

"They (preschoolers) love it that I'm at the same size as them," Sims said. "It's so cute when they ask 'So, are you a big kid?'"

Along with volunteering at Head Start, Sims also spent time as a Bearcat Sweetheart Ambassador, where she pampered six football players and wrote home to their families. Sims said she looked pretty funny standing next to their 6-foot-5-inch frames.

As for the future, Sims hoped to graduate Spring 2005 and go on to teach kindergarten or preschool. Because she was physically able to have children, she eventually wanted to start a family. She joked on how the public would judge.

"People will think, 'it's an 11-year-old pregnant person,'" Sims said. "They'll wonder 'what's our society coming to?'"

Emily Sims didn't see her 4-foot-2-inch stature as hindering life. "I really don't see myself as different. I'm just short," Sims said.
photo by Mike Dye



Bond conquers barriers

By Amber Bower

Studying in Belgium, Leon Harden portrayed himself as Canadian during the war in Iraq to avoid ridicule. "We never felt any immediate threats, but we always had to be aware," Harden said.

photo by Mike Dye



As a tactic for staying out of trouble, he wore Canadian apparel. He wasn't ashamed of being American; it just proved easier to keep his heritage at low profile.

Residing in Europe during the war against Iraq came with its risks, but chartered lifelong friendships.

During the 2003 spring trimester, Leon Harden III participated in the university's study abroad program in Belgium. While Harden never experienced any immediate threats, nearby protests caused him to be on the lookout.

"You didn't know who people were and how they were going to act," Harden said. "We didn't want conflict because there was a lot of hostility."

Living with people from 18 different countries produced enough political tension in itself, inviting much discussion about America and its attack on Iraq.

"Everyone from other countries was against the war," Harden said. "They wondered why America was initiating this. There was no just cause; no lines had been crossed. They felt we were just picking a fight."

During his time in Europe, Harden befriended a fellow student whose opinion came to matter very much. Sinan, an Iraq native, escaped the Hussein regime at age 13 and became a citizen of Austria. Sinan lived in Iraq when America first invaded during the Gulf War.

Harden said Sinan wanted Hussein out of Iraq but didn't want America to do what they did in 1991 by pushing him out then leaving the country alone. Sinan wanted the United States to follow through the second time, for he experienced horrific events during the Gulf War. He told Harden stories of his cousin being shot in the head and cried speaking of the bombs.

"It was hard to be pro-war when sitting there listening to Sinan bawling his eyes out for his land being destroyed," Harden said.

Sinan and Harden created a common bond, not only due to shared political viewpoints but because they represented both sides of the war they hated.

Others ridiculed each nationality in war talk, and at times it was easier to pretend to be someone else. While Harden could be seen in Canadian logos, Sinan became known to borrow his Kansas City Chiefs T-shirts.

Donaldson, John, Middle School Education/
Mathematics
Doudna, Lisa, International Business
Dozark, Amanda, Psychology
Dunlap, Michael, Agricultural Business
Dunlap, Patrick, Political Science





Dunn, Marcella, Vocal Music Education
 Durmus, H. Levent, Finance/ Business Management
 Egeland, Carla, Education/ Spanish
 Eimer, Adam, Management
 Eldred, Paula



Elliott, Melissa, Finance/ Marketing
 Ellis, Carla, Elementary Education/ C.C.S Ed.
 Ellis, Jennifer, Agronomy
 Epperson, Tara, Biology/ Zoology
 Erwin, Ashlee, Journalism/ English Education



Estes, Andrea, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation
 Eibridge, Russell
 Ewing, Adam
 Eve, Derek, M.I.S.
 Farmer, David, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation



Fehring, Kate, Public Relations
 Ferguson, Nick, Geography
 Fiala, Laci Ann, Sociology/ Speech Communication
 Fisher, Jesse, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
 Fleming, Catherine, Journalism



Flynn, Julie, Psychology/ Sociology
 Fontaine, Gelina, Child & Family Studies
 Francis, Ginny, Journalism, Sociology
 Frerking, Kari, Finance
 Friedrich, Lacy, Agricultural Business



Fullbright, Brad, Geography
 Gabidouline, Anvar, Finance
 Garner, Crystal, Business Management/ Marketing
 Garrett, Nicole, Merchandising
 Geier, Lindsay, Public Relations

Blocked goals

Her long, pale blonde hair pulled back in a high ponytail exposed a face filled with determination and confidence. She handled the ball expertly as she blocked the goal and returned it to her teammates with barely a glance.

By watching her fluid movements and natural skills, it became visible she belonged. It took hard work and sacrifice for Danielle Lawless to, again, fit her passion into her life.

Due to financial troubles, she abandoned soccer after her freshman year to work three outside jobs.

"It was tough not playing soccer anymore, but my jobs helped keep me busy and my mind off it," Lawless said.

Lawless was not a stranger to hard work and sacrifices. Her sophomore year of high school, doctors diagnosed her mother with breast cancer. At that time, Lawless put soccer on hold to take the position of a stay-at-home mom. Dribbling down the field turned into doing laundry, cooking and caring for her 9-year-old sister.

"I had to grow up fast and not be a kid anymore," Lawless said. "I never thought something like this could ever happen to my family, and especially to me. My mom was so important to me, and I couldn't even begin to imagine what it would be like without her."

After numerous surgeries and various other treatments, doctors declared her mother 100 percent cancer free as Lawless began her college search. Free to focus on soccer, she wanted to take advantage and play at the collegiate level. The university offered that opportunity, and Lawless enthusiastically became a Bearcat. As a therapeutic recreation major, she worked hard at her studies and on the field.

However, Lawless found she could not afford school without getting a job. She ended up taking multiple jobs that again placed soccer in the backseat of her life.

Sophomore year, she scheduled days around work at the Maryville Community Center, the climbing/ropes course at Mazingo Lake and Pagliai's Pizza. In addition, Lawless' volunteer work with kids' sports camps, after-school programs and the Bethesda Group Home kept her busy.

Lawless filled remaining time with student organizations such as Campus Crusade for Christ and Health, Physical, Education, Recreation Dance Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and M-Club. Though her busy schedule took her mind away from abandoning her true passion of soccer, there was still a void.

As Lawless began junior year, she continued to sacrifice for her education; however, talks once again began regarding her soccer career. New head soccer coach Tracy Cross needed the skill and determination Lawless brought to the game.

"I have a lot of respect for Danielle," Cross said. "She has a very strong work ethic both on and off the field, and her experience was what the soccer team needed."

Lawless fought with the idea of how to finance her education. She knew a scholarship would be the only possible way to play. After finding available funding to help her through school, Lawless once again made it back on the field.

In order to make time for the team, she quit waitressing at Pagliai's, but kept the other two jobs. She continued involvement in on-campus organizations as well as her volunteer work.

"Life is short, and you have to live it up for all it is worth," Lawless said.

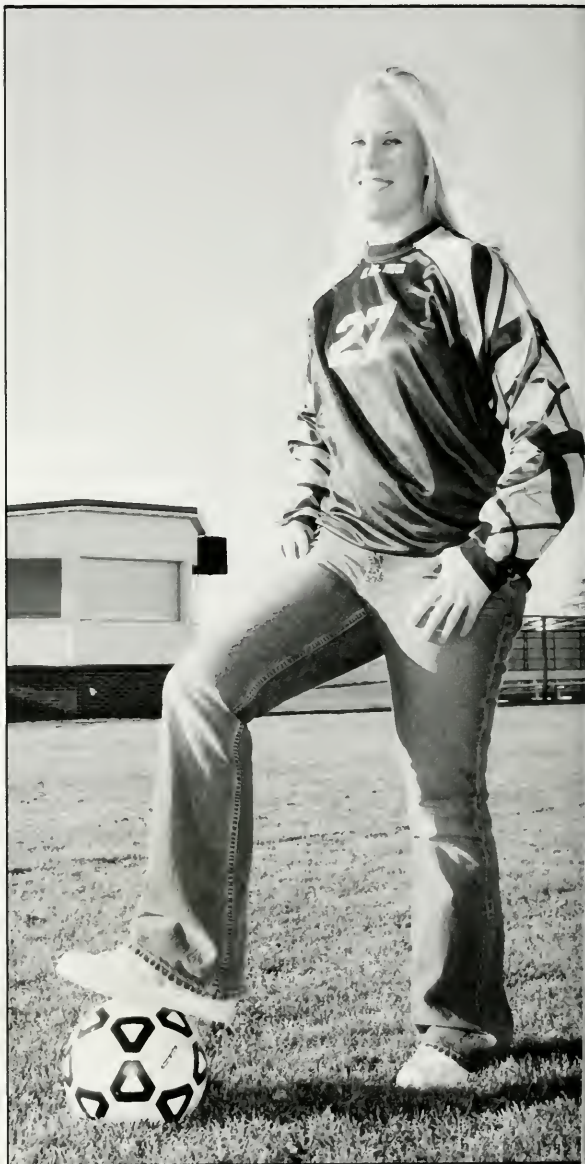
On the soccer field again, she felt she belonged. Out there, Lawless could let go of her worries and hectic schedule. For a moment, she could be the outgoing, carefree girl life had not always allowed her to be.

While her mother battled cancer, Danielle

Lawless balanced all aspects of her life with grace. After the life changing experience,

Lawless made time to volunteer for local causes.

photo by Mike Dye



Danielle Lawless



Geiss, Stephanie, Child & Family Studies
 Gettler, Sarah, Child & Family Studies
 Gibson, Piper, Geography/ Spanish
 Gibson, Rebecca, Merchandising
 Gilmore, Van, Physical Education



Gindner, Joseph, M.I.S. / Idm-Visual Image
 Gomel, David, Agronomy & Animal Science
 Gosnell, Tracie, Park & Recreational Management
 Grabowski, Christine, Public Relations
 Grav, Jessie, Marketing & Business Management



Gregory, Jason, Animal Science & Agr Business
 Grell, Clark, Journalism
 Gries, Jennifer, Nutrition/ Dietetics
 Guettermann, Luke
 Gundlach, Jill, Merchandising Textiles-Apparel & Furnish



Haley, Jeffrey, Agricultural Education
 Hamilton, John, Geography
 Handa, Sachie, Industrial Psychology
 Harlan, Jake, Vocal Music Performance
 Harness, Taylor, Broadcasting



Harrelson, Andrea, Environmental Geology & Geography
 Harris, Michelle, Accounting
 Harris, Torri, Child & Family Studies
 Hartle, Angela
 Hatterman, Erica, Business Management



Hedrick, Sierra
 Heller, Sarah, Merchandising
 Henke, Lacie, Marketing & Business Management
 Heppermann, Tricia, Elementary Education
 Herbek, Ethan, Geography

Spectrum of assistance

by Monica Christensen and Melissa Hout

Watching her younger brother struggle but never give up showed her the most important things in life. Friends, family and God were her solid ground as she watched her younger brother's life pass before her.

Kari Frerking lost her 6-year-old brother Troy to a cancerous brain tumor when she was in sixth grade. His passing brought new meaning to her Christianity, lighting the path to the rest of her life.

During her brother's illness, Frerking's family stayed in the Ronald McDonald House for almost 12 weeks. Receiving such good care from the volunteers made her decide she would one day return the favor by helping at the house.

"They've given me so much, and I just want to give back something more, tenfold," Frerking said. "People bring in food; people clean for you, they bring stuff for the kids. How many places do you know that would provide that for you? It's amazing to me."

As time moved past the death of her younger brother, Frerking realized the importance God held in her life. A self-proclaimed perfectionist, Frerking realized her tendency to take stress out on those around her. She also said some days she felt she just couldn't go on trying so hard to get good grades, be so involved and worry so much about her image. Her faith and trust in God told her to live everyday to the fullest, so she made a conscious decision to try her best and let God handle the small things.

"It just seems like any time I get stressed out or go frantic, all it takes is a prayer," Frerking said.

Even though she might change herself and worry less, Frerking said she would never change the past because everything happened for a reason, and learning from the mistakes allowed growth.

Frerking's faith strengthened after volunteering at Camp Quality, a camp for children with cancer. After a week spent there trying to build relationships with campers, Frerking left with a dissatisfied feeling weighing on her heart. She thought about the trials she and her campers experienced and doubted



the positive outcome of it all. On the car ride home she saw a rainbow and realized God was speaking to her.

"It was incredibly vivid," Frerking said. "I have never seen a rainbow like that. It hit me like a brick wall. As weird as it sounds, I felt like God was taking away all my doubts about Camp Quality and telling me that it was worth it."

Moments later, she noticed a second rainbow joining the first, creating an arch over the road.

"After the reality of it all hit me, after I had been questioning so much about Camp Quality, the saying on my brother's headstone popped into my head: 'Life is a rainbow of beautiful memories.' If that doesn't tell me that it was worth it, I don't know what does."

Frerking's life always entailed a Christian faith, but life after her brother's death planted seeds in her heart that grew stronger and steadier everyday.

"You don't know how much your life can change in one day until it actually happens," Frerking said. "And you don't know how many people will support you and love you until something like that happens. After that, I knew that no matter what, someone was always going to be there for me, and it gave me a really strong faith and strong will; determination."

Living by the Bible, Kari Frerking believes everything happens for a reason. Her brother's passing strengthened her religious beliefs.

photo by Mike Dye



Hev, Christopher, Agronomy
 Hickman, Ashley, Elementary Education
 Higgins, Kesh, Business Management
 Hill, Alicia, Psychology
 Hilton, Chad, Physical Education



Hiser, Mitchell, Elementary Education/ Spanish
 Hoeffcker, Jessica, Child & Family Studies
 Holder, Christopher, Accounting
 Hosier, Dana, Marketing & Business Management
 Hotmer, Tisha, Agricultural Business/ Animal Science



Howell, John, Business Management
 Hunt, Adriane, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
 Hunt, J. David, Geography
 Hunziger, Joanne, Elementary Education/ C/S Ed.
 Hurt, Kristie, Elementary Education



Hutchins, Jonathan, Industrial Psychology
 Ibrahimkhan, Gavin
 Ingels, Justin, Chemistry
 Irwin, Maegan
 Jackson, Jill, Business Education



Jenison, Devon, Psychology
 Jensen, Jennifer, Agricultural Business/ Finance
 Jensen, Kathryn, Elementary Education/ Mathematics
 Jesutis, Marv, Film/ Visual Image
 Jesse, Shannon, Agricultural Business

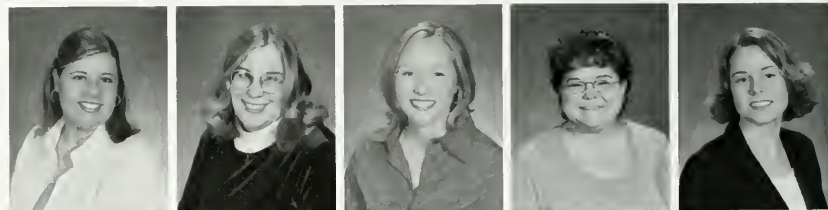
Johnson, Ashley
Johnson, Carrie, Public Relations
Johnson, Grace, Nutrition & Dietetics
Johnson, Tatianna, Broadcasting
Jorgensen, Charlotte, Elementary Education



Keller, Carla, Sociology
Kendall, Kristen, Child & Family Studies
Kephart, Amy, Elementary Education
Kim, Jae Hee, Idm-Visual Image
Kimbrough, Sage, Theatre Performance



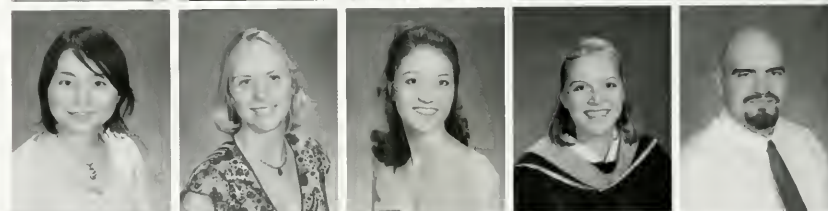
King, Lacie, Therapeutic & Corporate Recreation
Kitzing, Julia, Child & Family Studies
Kleeschulte, Jennifer, Agricultural Education
Klingensmith, Cheryl, Family & Consumer Science
Education
Knapp, Julie, Graphic Design



Knierim, Jamie, Marketing & Business Management
Knotts, Erin, Elementary Education
Koeteman, Megan, Advertising
Koga, Kenichirou, Psychology
Koile, Mikaela, Broadcasting



Kovama, Hitomi, Advertising
Krefels, Tammy, Animal Science & Pre-Vet
Kresse, Tiffany, Broadcasting
Kroll, Renae, Public Relations
Kutzli, Dan, Business Management



Lancaster, Chris, Finance/ Computer Science
Lancaster, Nathan, Computer Science
Lance, Jennifer, Management & Marketing
Larabee, Carmen, Business/ Computer Science
Larrea, Juan



John Gallaher



Natural inspirations keeps John Gallaher's creative mind in action. "I've always refused to believe in writers block," Gallaher said. "It's not really blocked, it's just that your imagination isn't working." photo by Mike Dye

H

He always carried a small, Memo notebook and jotted down pieces of conversations or snippets of news articles.

Language depicted art to John Gallaher, assistant professor of English. Everything he heard became a potential piece of poetry. Gallaher was a husband, father and professor all woven into a poet.

"Happiness is the artistic community," Gallaher said. "The best connection is the writing itself."

His passion for poetry consumed him as he saw artful language in everything from Barney to advertisements.

Gallaher wanted everybody to love poetry like he did. In his ideal world, poetry would be talked about. Poetry would change things. Poetry would be important. The attention to language would be necessary and would alter the way things were seen.

"The fundamental way that we make sense of and deal with the things of the world is through language," he said.

When Gallaher spoke of poetry, he often became red in the face from excitement. His icy blue eyes opened wide and he gestured wildly with his hands. He became lost in a world where language mattered and metaphors ruled as king of the land.

"Do you feel this way?" Gallaher asked. "Do you experience this?"

It was these instances, Gallaher seemed to convulse in the excitement of poetry and what it was capable of evoking.

Inspirations for his poetry came from all aspects. He tapped into previously ignored pockets of language at home with his 2-year-old daughter, Natalie, where he often found moments of inspiration.

"Okay feet, do your stuff," was a scribble in his notebook that came from one of Natalie's favorite children's programs.

Similar phrases led to a book of poetry he created in 2001 titled "Gentlemen in Turbans, Ladies in Cauls." Gallaher published poetry in numerous journals across the nation.

While being recognized for his work across the United States, he also concentrated energy on campus activities, such as "Scribblers," "Medium Weight Forks," "The Laurel Review" and the "Visiting Writers Series."

Leaving his mark on the university and the rest of the world was important to Gallaher.

"Only your words remain (after death)," Gallaher said. "I write poems to join in the telling. I'd like to have a little territory where what I say is of interest and will continue to be so."

Everyday motivations



Laswell, Katy, Sociology
Lawson, Selena, Psychology
Leit, Megan, Therapeutic & Corporate Recreation
Lemke, Valerie, Business Marketing/ Management
Leshner, Trisha, Pre-Professional Zoology



Leung, Pamela, Theatre Tech/design/art
Lewis, Alison, Child & Family Studies
Lidolph, Ryan, Marketing & Business Management
Lilliston, Mary, Education/ Art
Lilly, Beth

Scattered Memories

by Krista Wray & Julie Smith



Tumors trigger life for Elizabeth Woody. Family, friends and photographs help restore lost memories.
photo by Mike Dye

Although her vision diminished to unfocused blurs after countless operations, Elizabeth Woody stayed motivated when doctors explained she developed a brain tumor – twice.

At the end of her senior year of high school, in 1998, doctors informed Woody her migraine headaches could be caused by a condition called hydrocephalus. Pressure surrounded tissues due to a blockage between the third and fourth ventricle of her brain. Surgeons placed a shunt in her head to drain the fluid out of her brain and into her stomach, which eased the pain of her headaches, but complications continued.

Woody began having major problems with her vision in April 2001, and another MRI was performed. Not long after, she received a call from her neurologist who asked her to come into the office.

"They don't ever call you into the principal's office to tell you that you're doing a good job," Woody said. "So, I knew it was bad."

What another doctor previously referred to as a cyst turned out to be a tumor the size of a walnut.

Just three days after her first date with boyfriend Chad Foster, she called him and said she was probably undergoing immediate brain surgery. Woody's parents, however, left the final decision to her. If she didn't have the surgery, it was estimated she might only live for another year. With the surgery, she had a chance, but there were no guarantees for the outcome.

The surgery jeopardized her ability to move, speak or recognize the people around her. She also could have lost her memory, sight, been mentally disabled or become a vegetable. She decided to risk the consequences. Eight days later, Woody underwent a stereotactic biopsy and a shunt revision.

Exactly one month after surgeons removed the tumor, Woody's vision was still nowhere near perfect, but that was the least of her concerns.

Formally a student at Emporia State and Fort Scott Community College, in Kansas, Woody transferred to Northwest in the fall of 2001. Just one week after school started, she went home for Labor Day weekend. Her parents sat her down and explained to her they had received word her tumor had re-grown. She underwent six weeks of radiation treatment, which slowly killed the cells in the tumor.

Cindy Woody, Elizabeth's mother, remembered elementary teachers commenting on Woody's incredible memory – nearly photographic. During surgery, she lost some of that ability when they cut through memory tracks in her brain. Certain pictures of her life were erased from her memory.

Woody experienced what she referred to as "memory dumps." From time to time someone or something triggered memories and scattered them across her brain. She then sorted out which memory went where.

"It's like doing a jigsaw puzzle without knowing what the puzzle looks like," she said.

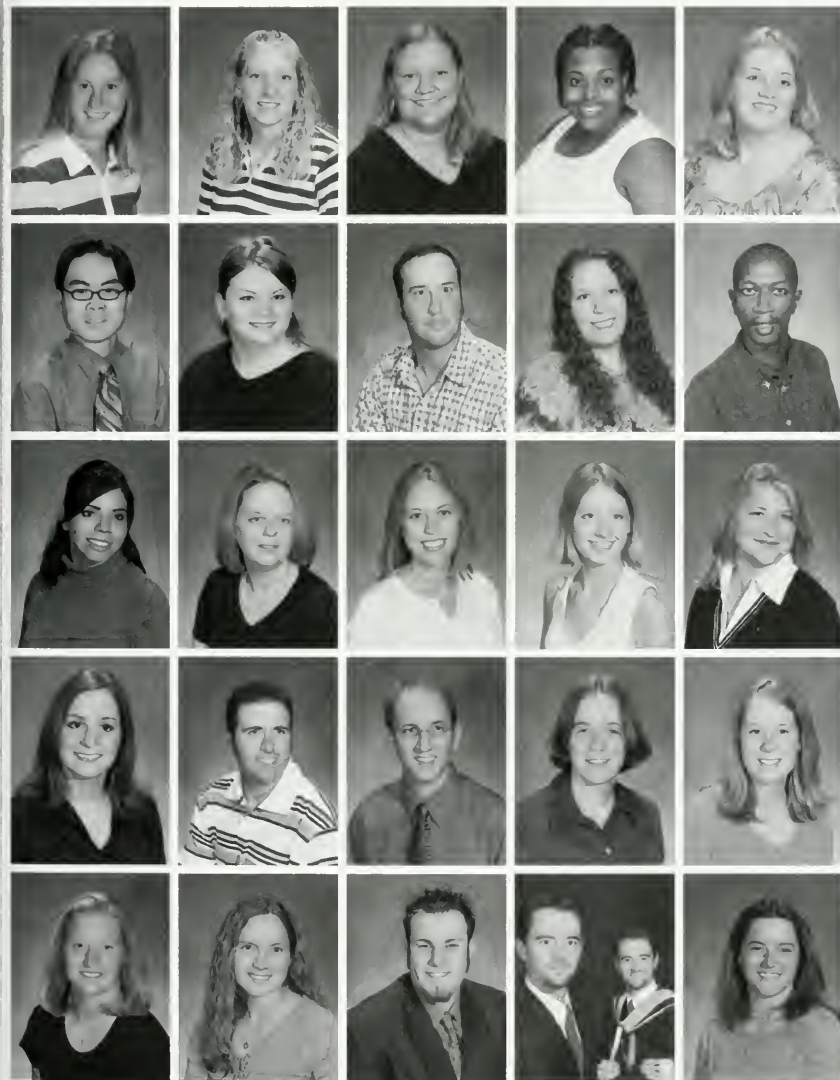
As a visual learner for the majority of her life, she now had trouble seeing at all. On occasion, she had to wear an eye patch to negate the double vision she experienced nearly on a daily basis. She didn't let that stop her from living her life.

There was still a minor possibility that if her vision continued to fail, she would become completely blind.

"I don't think about it," Woody said. "If it happens, it happens. God will take care of me; I'm not worried."

Woody proved through her schoolwork and relationships that she wasn't about to give up. She soon planned her wedding with Foster and hoped to teach elementary students.

"I don't know what God has planned for my life," Woody said. "Just because someone throws a monkey-wrench into your life doesn't mean that your life is over. We can't see the big picture."



Lipira, Sara, Physical Education
 Livengood, Kelli, Business Management/ Marketing
 Livengood, Rachel, Psychology/ Sociology
 Lloyd, Sherina
 Lockhart, Wynette, Marketing & Business
 Management

Low, Chee-Keong, Computer Management Systems
 Lowrey, Lindsey, Agricultural Science
 Lundry, Matthew
 Mallov, Katie, Psychology/ Sociology
 Mararo, Humphrey

Marcolino, Monica, International Business
 Marsh, Amanda
 Marticke, Pamela, Speech & Organizational
 Communications
 Masek, Melissa, Mathematics/ Statistics
 Mason, Stacey, Agricultural Business

Matthews, Nuelle, Geography
 Mav, Kaleb, Park & Recreational Management
 McAsev, Shane, Fine Arts
 McCaw, Jennifer, Agricultural Science
 McCollum, Robyn, Advertising

McCoy, Angelique, Business Management
 McCrary, Ollie
 McCreedy, Colin, Broadcasting
 McLain, John, Park & Recreational Management
 McLain, Sarah, Industrial Psychology

Best of both worlds

By Mary Stier

She was the type of person whose accomplishments at hand never satisfied her. Through childhood farm life, raising a family and striving for a Ph.D., she continually found new ways to better herself.

Whatever challenges life threw at her, Darla Runyon always managed to stay positive. Many only knew Runyon as the assistant to call for eCompanion and online course design questions at the Center for Information Technology in Education office, but friends and colleagues described her as a spark plug, vivacious and a bundle of energy.

Runyon learned to be outgoing by growing up as the youngest girl in a family of nine. Raised in Grant City, a small farming community with a population of 926, didn't allow much time to be a child.

Her father had a massive heart attack when she was 8 years old, so Runyon and her siblings handled daily farm duties. She raised cattle, fed pigs and lifted hay bales into the barn. It was hard, physical labor for a young girl.

"When I was in high school, I could never find clothes that would fit around my arms because they were so big from lifting all the hay bales," Runyon said. "And they weren't just toned muscles, I could pop a muscle just like the guys at school."

A strong work ethic drove Runyon to succeed in life. After receiving her bachelor's degree in secondary education from Northwest at age 21, she moved to Wyoming where she worked as a teacher for seven years and simultaneously earned a master's degree.

Runyon and her husband, Steve, decided to move back to Maryville to start a family. She had Levi, then Jaquie two years later. In 1995, she re-entered the professional world and, after a previous job, found herself at the CITE office in 1999.

While employed full-time at CITE, Runyon began working on her Ph.D. in Information Science and Learning Technology at the University of Missouri.

On Monday night commutes, she didn't get home from Columbia until 10:15 p.m., and before heading to bed, she checked over the homework her children completed earlier that night. The day usually ended around 11:30 p.m. just to start over the day at 6 a.m.

The educational workload could be stressful with two young children at home and a full-time job. Runyon took on the responsibility because she believed education was a wise step.

"What else am I gonna do?" Runyon said. "My brain and body start buzzing when I have nothing to do. It's like I am on idle, waiting for someone to hit the accelerator."

Although Runyon had always been on the go, she admitted some days she became overloaded. She let out frustration through laughter and with the help of chocolate.

For Runyon, work was fun, and her real job started when she got home at night. She had to be the drill sergeant when 5 p.m. hit. "Clean up your room." "Get that pop off the couch." "Do your homework." "Time for supper." "Get ready for soccer practice." "Time for bed." There wasn't much time for Runyon to relax and reflect. That was part of having kids, and she said she wouldn't give it up for the world.

At age 40, Runyon joked about how old she felt and how all the moms at school were "young chicks." But not many people accomplished what Runyon had in such a short time.

Life became more than just degrees and material possessions. She was able to relive her childhood through her children and enjoy life to the fullest.

Balancing a full-time job at the CITE office, her family and schooling, Darla Runyon maintains a positive attitude. She attributes her successes to her hard-work ethic learned as a child. photo by Mike Dye





McQueen, Melissa, Management & Marketing
 Meade, Melinda, Elementary Education
 Meister, Shannon, Public Relations
 Menefer, Nicole, Psychology/ Zoology
 Meyer, Amy, Accounting/ Corp Financial Svcs



Meyer, Lane, Agricultural Business
 Meyer, Louann, Elementary Education
 Mickelson, Eric, Broadcasting
 Middleton, Jill, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
 Miller, Amanda, Instrumental Music Education



Miller, Holly, Business Management
 Miller, Krysten, Psychology
 Miller, Molly, Elementary Education
 Miller, Ryan, Biology/ Psychology
 Minor, Christina, Child & Family Studies



Miyazaki, Sanae, International Business
 Moore, Roneika
 Morris, Sha'ron, Biology
 Mower, Mary
 Mosley, Jon, Psychology



Muldoon, Erin, Elementary Education
 Mullen, Bethany, Elementary Education
 Mullins, Nikki, Accounting/ Corp Financial Svcs
 Murphy, Joshua, Broadcasting
 Nabors, Anna, Child & Family Studies



Clint Prange looks at his time of injury as a rebuilding period. Prange hoped to come back and set the national Division II record in discus. photo by Mike Dye

Patient **champion**

It's 7 a.m., and track star Clint Prange was already up practicing drills and finishing his daily workout before heading off to class.

Prange's drive and motivation began in junior high when his coach told him that he should stick with running hurdles because he would never be any good at throwing discus. Those words struck the match that lit the competitive fire in his soul.

"My entire life, whenever someone has told me that I cannot do something, I just like to throw it back in their faces," Prange said. "Not in a mean way, but just to say, 'hey, look what I did.' For me it is a big motivational factor."

Prange moved up in college track and field and earned two Division II National Championships in the discus, but he wasn't content with a national title.

"I want to set the Division II record in the discus," he said.

College athletics required participants to spend hours practicing, working out and traveling to and from competitions. Time restraints made it hard for athletes to balance athletics and their academic lives.

Prange, however, managed to find a balance. Along with his accomplishments with track and field, he also achieved high marks in the classroom. In 2002, Prange was recognized as an Academic All-American for achieving a nearly flawless 3.93 GPA in agricultural business.

Prange said his success came from always working hard and wanting to be the best at everything he did.

"I don't like being bad at anything," Prange said. "Growing up, my parents raised me making sure that I know that the most important thing was what I had between my ears. No one can ever take that away from you."

In the rare occasion Prange had a bad meet and felt down on himself, his girlfriend, Amber Gill, reminded him there was more to life than track. "She is my inspiration. She is not always there for me at the meets physically, but she is always the first person I call," he said. "She helps me

realize that it is just a sport and that there are other more important things in life."

"Just a sport," was something Prange had to keep in mind last year when he went into the national meet. Prange suffered an injury that made it painful to throw the discus and kept him out of the shot-put competition.

"I wasn't really happy with the way I threw. Even injured I felt like I could have thrown better," Prange said. "I would have been happy with an All-American title."

Fighting through the pain, he threw 178 feet 3 inches, enough to defend his title.

"I was surprised when I won. This one really meant a lot to me, because it showed what kind of competitor I am," he said. "There were five or six guys that could have walked away with it that year. I just thank God that I was the one."

Prange's hope of defending his title and pursuing a third national title suddenly came to a screeching halt when doctors identified the injury as a pelvic shear. He suffered from bone spurs in his pelvic region. Doctors prescribed rest and rehabilitation for his injury. This meant, after back-to-back national titles, Prange would be forced to take a medical red-shirt this year and sit out the entire season.

"At first, my stomach dropped, but to be honest, in a way, I was kind of relieved, because half of my summer was lost, and I was not able to do what I wanted to training wise."

Prange admitted it would be hard to stand by and watch his friends compete but understood that if he wanted to throw again, he had to rest his body.

"I have to be able to do my best, and this is the best way for me to do that," Prange said. "I start graduate school here this summer, and it will be nice to have an extra year of getting stronger and faster under my belt. That way I will be able to come in and perform that much better for my senior year of throwing."



Neblock, Miranda, Speech & Organizational Communications
 Neibling, Stacy, Broadcasting
 Nelson, David, Geography
 Nienver, Sabrina, Music Education
 Neustadter, Daniel, Advertising



Nichols, Audrey, Elementary Education
 Nickerson, Jason, Marketing & Business Management
 Nickerson, Sandra, Comprehensive Psychology/Sociology
 Nolan, Kristin, Management & Marketing
 Norgart, Kortni, Education/ Science



O'Brien, Megan, Child & Family Studies
 Oldfield, Eric, Social Science/ Secondary Education
 Opie, Shaundra, Elementary Education/ C.C.S Ed.
 Owings, Clifford, Geography
 Panera, Lander



Pangburn, Robert, Agricultural Education
 Paramenter, Andrew, History
 Parman, Grant, Advertising
 Partridge, Ronald, Horticulture
 Patee-Merrill, Danielle, Environmental Geology & Geography



Paus, Cathy, Public Relations
 Pavne, Kimberly, Computer Science
 Peeper, James, Horticulture
 Peterson, Katie, Child & Family Studies
 Peterson, Nicholas, Social Science/ Secondary Education

Platzgraft, Sarah, Broadcasting
 Pierce, Kyle, Agricultural Business
 Pierpoint, Kent, Instrumental Music Education
 Pinney, Rachel, Pre-Professional Zoology
 Plattner, Matt, Agronomy



Plattner, Jennifer
 Potts, Kristen, Elementary Education
 Pratt, Nickara, M.I.S.
 Prescott, Megan, Marketing & Business Management
 Pusateri, Joni, Corporate Recreation & Wellness



Putney, Amy, Idm-Visual Image
 Quaes, Heather
 Rav, Jessica, Elementary Education
 Redman, Allison, Merchandising Textiles-Apparel & Furnish
 Reid, Charity, Management



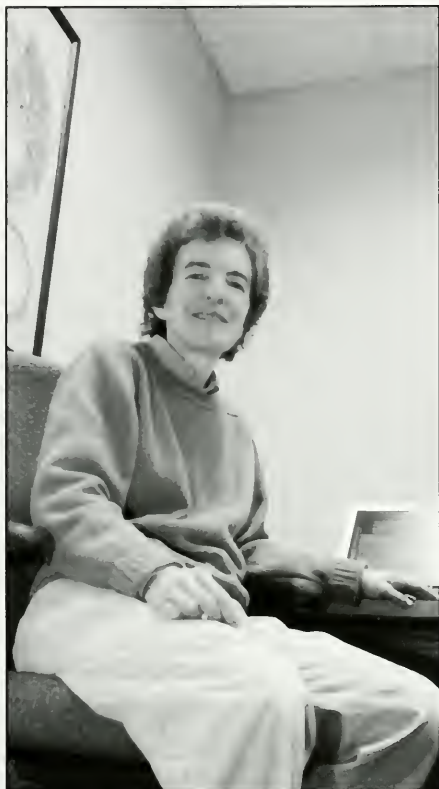
Reil, Mary, Nutrition & Dietetics
 Rhodes, Kristen, Agricultural Education & Business
 Richter, Rosa, Elementary Education
 Ridley, Darrel, Public Relations
 Ritzman, Julie, Elementary Education



Rives, Jeff, Business Education
 Robinson, Alicia, Agricultural Business
 Robinson, Brian, Pre-Dentistry Studies
 Rogers, Jason, Marketing & Business Management
 Rolf, April, Physical Education



Part
 help
 sign of
 degree
 Scot
 to
 exper
 becom
 the
 exper



Patricia Drews helped create the first online master's degree program in Geographic Information Science. Utilizing her 17 years of workforce experience, Drews became an asset to the geography department. photo by Mike Dye

Pioneer maps future

by Dan Dyer and Lisa Corson

In the world of innovative technology, one college instructor worked to take her department to a different level.

Assistant Professor of Geosciences Patricia Drews' hard work led to the creation of the nation's first online master's degree program in Geographic Information Science. Designated as the graduate program coordinator, she helped organize various online classes.

Fall 2001, university administrators asked the department of Geology/Geography to create a proposal addressing the solution to create an online master's GIS program. According to Drews, she and three of her colleagues, Marcus Gillespie, Gregory Haddock and Mark Corson, sat around a dining room table for four hours, eating pizza and brainstorming what the course would entail. Soon after, Haddock wrote the final proposal.

Former Department Chair Gillespie instigated the original proposal. The proposal responded to a need for workers in the GIS industry.

"GIS is a rapidly growing field. It is used for any kind of organization or business that has to manage natural resources or infrastructures," Drews said.

Research and online programs were being created before the original draft proposal was approved. For her part, Drews researched what other online GIS programs offered. Although there were certificate programs for GIS, Drew found no online master's degree programs, which presented challenges for the committee. The group decided what curriculum and course work to include, in addition to foreseeing any problems that might occur because the course would be online.

Drews said because this was the first of its kind, sometimes her committee made it up as they went along. They often bounced ideas off each other, so the course components were a combination of all their ideas.

Drews created the first courses for the program, then determined how to grade and return the work to the online students. She altered normal class curriculum into the framework of an online course. She was also responsible for deciding which students would be admitted into the program and eventually became their course adviser.

"This online program offers those students who are already in the field a chance to further their education, while continuing their jobs in the industry," Drews said. "This group of people seems to be the biggest group of students...almost all of them."

Drews hoped the online environment could become a community of working students, a place where they talked about the class and the industry. She continued to show her dedication to her students, even online. Drews said she sometimes stayed in the office working late on students' questions.

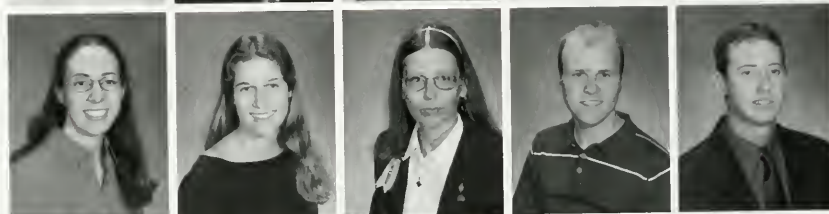
Just as she devoted the extra effort to her students, Drews wanted the same dedication in return. She always emphasized doing a good job and said she felt unhappy when her students didn't work hard to reach their potential.

With the coursework established and the work ethics in mind, the first GIS online master's program was off to a good start.

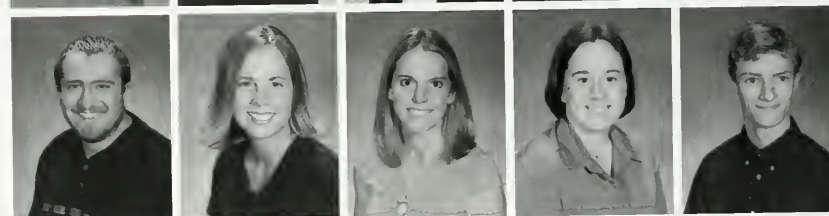
Rowan, Shanna, Elementary Education
 Ruff, Mike, Marketing/ Business Management
 Rummer, Tricia, Speech & Organizational
 Communications
 Sanderson, Amanda, Advertising
 Satvavolu, Clinton R., Business Management/ Public
 Accounting



Schell, Jennifer, Geography
 Schmitt, Ludvine
 Schnarrenberger, Diana
 Schneider, Adam, Sociology
 Schneider, Alen, Agricultural Science



Schukei, Robert, Computer Science/ Mathematics
 Schultes, Shelby, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
 Searle, Stephanie, Middle School Education
 Sexton, Stephanie, Elementary Education/ C.C.S Ed.
 Shaffer, Curtis, Mathematics/ Computer Science



Shannon, Amanda, Advertising
 Shannon, Lisa, Psychology
 Sheeley, Amber, Education
 Shields, Angela, Corporate Recreation & Wellness
 Shineman, Shannon, Agricultural Economics



Short, Rachel, English
 Shoults, Samara, Instrumental Music Education
 Shuck, Carrie, Instrumental Music Education
 Siefert, Kerra, Business Management
 Simmons, Stephanie, Elementary Education



Life adjustments

by Cindy Poindexter and Megan Howell



Cindy Poindexter

A tiny package came into her life and a woman of independence re-arranged to accommodate its content.

At 22, Cindy Poindexter managed college, work, organizations and a newborn child. After meeting boyfriend John Bradley at one of the local bars, Poindexter began a relationship and found herself pregnant.

She previously spent her college career as a resident assistant, peer adviser and Relay for Life participant while holding a job at the local Subway. After they discovered the pregnancy, Poindexter and Bradley made decisions together about waiting to share the news and what their future entailed.

"We didn't do it because we were ashamed or anything," Poindexter said. "It was more that we needed time to adjust to it ourselves. We just waited for the initial shock to wear off, then we told people."

For the duration of the pregnancy, Poindexter kept busy with work and an internship, and remained involved in campus organizations.

Her boss and friends worried about her constantly. Toward the last few months of pregnancy, she experienced high blood pressure, and doctors admitted her to the hospital to keep an eye on her condition.

Two days after being admitted to the hospital, doctors performed a cesarean operation to remove baby Caleb.

"Even through everything that happened with the pain and the health problems and everything, I would still want to relive that day," she said. "He's so amazing. Now, I can't imagine my life without him."

Poindexter lived an independent lifestyle before the baby, but graciously learned to include Bradley on decisions about their lives as parents after their child's birth. The parents planned to finish school and move in together to share responsibilities.

"I know now that it's okay to rely on someone else to do stuff for me," Poindexter said. "I know he'll be there for me."

Both parents learned things about themselves through their shared experience and their love endured the pregnancy. She said she wouldn't change anything that happened in her life because, "things happen for a reason."

After a committed college career, Cindy Poindexter now focuses her future plans on baby Caleb. Learning to depend on others proved challenging for her. photo by Mike Dye



Chris Miller
Views volunteer
work as training
for his future
career as a
pediatrician.
Miller made
choices about
what came first in
his life. photo by
Mike Dye

Priority calls

Voices echoed in the hall but cut-off when the black pager on Chris Miller's hip sounded. The firefighter's eyes looked to the ceiling as he listened. Seconds later, he raced down the hall.

After running down four flights of stairs and through Hudson Hall's parking lot, the volunteer firefighter jumped in his car and sped to the call. Astonished at what happened, his friends silently stood still.

Miller's devotion to serving others spurred from Boy Scouts. The lessons he learned becoming an Eagle Scout changed his life. "It influenced me to become a firefighter because I think that if I hadn't had the strong service background, I probably wouldn't be a volunteer firefighter," Miller said.

As a Boy Scout, Miller learned many values. All of which carried over into his choices and interactions. Almost every aspect of his life had been impacted by his scouting experience.

"It's just a whole new set of values that a lot of people don't get," Miller said. "Being in scouts taught me a lot of leadership skills that I can apply in everyday life, my classes, how to prioritize, what things come first in your life, your family values, helping others. Boy Scouts has definitely taught me about helping others."

In addition to serving as a Maryville volunteer firefighter, Miller helped with flood cleanup, worked at a camp for children with cancer and volunteered for Habitat for Humanity.

Miller's background also influenced his decision to become a doctor. Majoring in biology, he planned on attending medical school at the University of Missouri to become a pediatrician. He knew being a firefighter would help him in the long run.

"Being a volunteer firefighter is experience working in emergency situations and teaches you how to work under pressure," he said. "It teaches you communication skills for when things get going pretty rough."

Working 20 hours a week at the Nodaway Valley Bank, carrying a full class load, having training every other week and responding to calls forced the freshman to plan ahead and expect anything.

"Sometimes you'll get three (fire calls) in one day, and then I won't have one for two and a half weeks," Miller said. "You definitely have to set priorities, and since I'm only a volunteer, I favor schoolwork over going to calls."

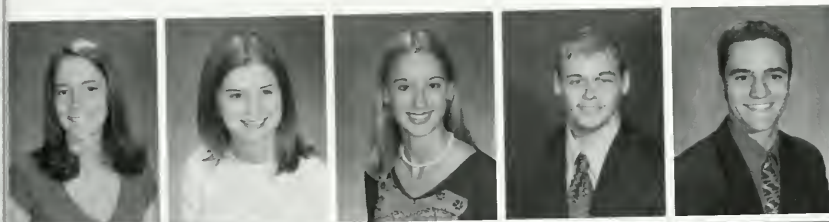
Occasionally, he made exceptions. Once he left class to respond to a fire at a nursing home. He thought extra help might be needed since the call dealt with elderly people.

Miller's pager went everywhere with him, including church and the shower. On the first day of classes, Miller told his teachers about his responsibility and that he might need to leave class if something big happened.

"Professors at Northwest are really good about that because they realize that if it's their house burning down, they'd like to have somebody go help," Miller said. "I even had a couple professors tell me that they'd rather have me go than stay here because they know that it's my job."

Boy Scouts, church and his family instilled the importance of helping others in him.

"There's no real way to explain it," he said. "It's just a really good feeling when you help somebody else. You know that you've done something that made somebody else have a better life."



Simon, Kimberlee, Elementary Education
Simpson, Abigail, Political Science
Skeen, Catherine, Business Management/ Marketing
Smith, Andrew, Broadcasting/ Speech
Smith, Cory, Advertising/ Marketing



Smith, Elgin
Smith, Gregory, Broadcasting
Smith, Jenette, Advertising/ Idm-Visual Image
Smith, Lindsay, O.I.S.
Snow, Derick, Management & Marketing



Sonnichsen, Brandy, Management & Marketing
Spearow, Stacy, Elementary Education
Stacy, Michelle, Broadcasting
Starr, Jordan, Idm-Visual Image
Stetson, Shawn, M.I.S.



Stevens, David, M.I.S.
Steward, Darla, Child & Family Studies
Stewart, Alisa, Psychology/ Sociology
Strong, Sarah, Accounting
Studs, Kristin, Park & Recreational Management



Stull, Lisa
Summers, Lori, Family & Consumer Science
Education
Swope, Corey, M.I.S.
Tague, Troy, Agricultural Business
Tanihata, Satoshi, Idm-Visual Image

Artistic mentor breaks the mold

By Brett Burkhardt

The beginning months teaching at Northwest involved adjustment. Creating innovative new programs to expand the art department helped establish ground.

Teaching three-dimensional design, sculpture and a section of art history, Glenn Williams' first trimester on staff let him teach students his main area of art specialization: metal fabrication. Working with various forms of metal as the main media form, metal fabrication involved techniques such as soldering, sanding and shaping.

Creating a new opportunity for students, Williams said summer would offer a class on box and container construction. Using basic soldering techniques, the class would focus on the different types of metal and proper construction techniques. If finances and time allotted the following year, a class on jewelry construction would also be offered.

Williams received a Masters of Fine Arts with a studio specialization in sculpture from University of Wisconsin-Madison in spring 2003. Before Wisconsin, he earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Northern Iowa.

Williams said he learned what it would take to be a successful professor from UNI professor Tony Yuen. Yuen's time and dedication helped Williams to succeed in his own work and inspired him to give other aspiring artists the same treatment.

"Being around my instructors helped me realize what it took to be an artist," Williams said. "It was eye-opening knowing that art was something that I could achieve."

In addition to the knowledge gained from his professors at UNI, he felt age factored into his teaching success at Northwest.

"I consider myself very personable. It's very easy for students to approach me," Williams said. "I feel that since I am the youngest (faculty member) students can relate to me."

Williams said students were very receptive of him and believed his ability to work one-on-one developed a better professor-to-student relationship.



"I expect (students) to be committed and keep an open mind. It is rewarding seeing satisfaction on their faces when they complete a project," he said.

Like students, he enjoyed expressing his creative talent, even though the grade was no longer an issue. After working, he went home to work on a model for an annual art show held in Chicago called Sculpture Walk.

When completed, the steel sculpture would be 15 x 7 feet high, designed to be a functional outside resemblance of a natural, plant-like form.

"It is based from an organic form, and if selected to be in the show, it will be made out of stainless steel," Williams said.

Williams said he came to the university without high expectations. Even with few expectations he thought his first year turned out better than expected, and everyone was receptive of him.

First year assistant professor Glenn Williams brings a new area of art to the university. Williams said students related well to his young frame of mind. photo by Mike Dye



Tapia, Rosa, Computer Science
Tello, Otero, Public Administration
Thole, Megan, Business Management
Thomas, Janson, Political Science
Thoni, Christine, Elementary Education



Throener, John, Business Management
Tibbles, David
Timmerman, Melissa, Elementary Education
Trent, Dawn, Speech & Organizational Communications
Tritten, Tyler, Philosophy



Ursch, Nicole, Vocal Music Education
Van-Buskirk, Emily, Speech & Organizational Communications
Vavrick, Lawrence, Idm-Visual Image
Verdi, Nicholas, Business Management
Vick, Nathan, Geography



Vollers, Cortnee, Pre-Professional Zoology
Voris, Michael, Public Relations
Waigand, Kathryn, Accounting
Wallace, Sarah, Social Science
Wallace, Tiffany, Business Management



Wasson, Dustin, Broadcasting
Weber, Jared, Public Administration
Weinstein, Jacqueline, Sociology
Wells, Jennifer, Broadcasting
Whithorn, Sarah, Elementary Education

Sensible showmanship

by Megan Huer

Trophies lined the walls with photos of world competitions, but after a life of loving horses and 22 years of showing, the deserving champion considered herself to have little athletic ability.

Amateur horse showman Merry McDonald said she didn't have the natural ability of riding horses, yet she and her horse, Sudsy, earned top awards at national and world competitions.

"I'm not a real brave person when it comes to physical activities like that, maybe because I wasn't very athletic as a youth," McDonald said. "Horses are big strong creatures and you can get hurt on them and so I've had to deal with that."

Beginning with her first horse in 1973, she started showing in 1981 and moved to the national level competitions 10 years later.

On breaks from university duties instructing Computer Science and Information Systems classes, McDonald traveled to Texas monthly. Professional trainers gave her riding lesson in four competitive classes: Western pleasure, trail, showmanship and horsemanship. She moved to Dallas during the summer months to concentrate time and energy on showing.

Competing across the United States, McDonald spent weekends and sometimes full weeks at horse shows. Days started as early as 5 a.m. and ended sometimes 12 hours later, after preparing and showing Sudsy.

Each class contained 15 to 50 horses and judged on different criteria. Scoring consisted of the team's ability to execute obstacle courses and maintain correct postures.

McDonald learned more than how to show horses from her experiences. Before she started winning awards, the lessons taught by years of dedication and little to show for it shaped her character.

"I mean, I go to shows and obviously, when you go in a class you want to win the class, but you can't focus on that. Mostly what you have to do is, you want to do better this time than you did the last time."

Practicing for three-hour intervals several times a week, McDonald stayed focused, and when others gave up she rode on.

"I don't mind because I enjoyed the process," McDonald said. "I think if you're just focused on winning than you can't stick it out."

After years of training, McDonald began to improve beyond expectations and found herself competing at national and world competitions. She placed many times earning all-around, or most points out of all the classes combined, and circuit awards, or awards for the highest score in the class she competed in.

Earning Reserve World Champion at the World Paint Show in the Amateur Senior Western Pleasure Division and fifth in Showmanship at the Select Amateur World Quarter Horse Show, she and her horse Sudsy proved every show reaped more rewards.

"I think it's just good to have a serious hobby where you're really trying to improve yourself and get better all the time, and that's my main goal," McDonald said.

Showing horses fulfilled a passion and taught McDonald many lessons in life. Developing a relationship with her horses and meeting new people came along with it, giving her more benefits than any trophy could provide.

"I think it just helps you to be a better person," McDonald said. "You go out there, you learn to focus on what's important, which is 'ok, I'm going to do better today than I did yesterday' and I guess that's what I like about it."

Merry McDonald designates a room in her home to display memorabilia and awards earned over the last two decades. Because McDonald concentrated on self-improvement, not winning, she stuck with her love of showing horses. *photo by Mike Dye*

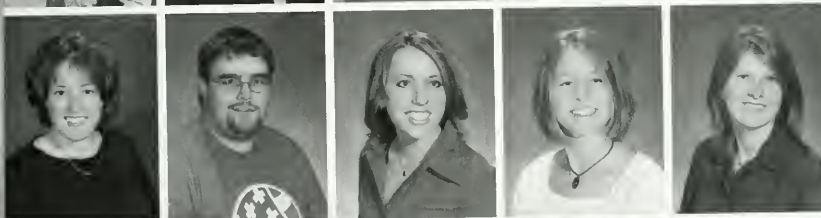




Wiese, Cara, Agricultural Education
Williams, Amber
Williams, Betsy, Elementary Education
Williams, Joshua, Business Administration
Williams, Lance, Agricultural Business



Willis, Eric, Political Science
Wilson, Brice, Vocal Music Education
Wilmes, Dee Dee, Elementary Education
Wilson, Anita
Winecoff, Sarah, Marketing & Business Management



Wise, Jill, Elementary Education
Wistrom, Christopher, Pre-Professional Zoology
Wittstruck, Lindsay, Social Science/ Secondary Education
Wolff, Sara, Marketing & Business Management
Wood, Marietta, Elementary Education



Woodland, Nathan, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation
Wright, Matthew, Psychology
Wright, Rachelle, Computer Science
Wrisinger, Heather, Elementary Education
Yaple, Steven, Business Management



Young, Tyler
Youngs, Jennifer, Child & Family Studies
Zarox, Allison, Public Relations
Zuerlein, Sarah, Business Management/ Marketing

Cultural prominence

By VICTOR GARCIA



After exposure to more diverse ways of life, Madison set goals to expand her traveling horizons.

photo by Mike Dye

A university trip to Japan opened her eyes to the beauty in the world and provoked a yearning to travel. While taking her teaching to a different level, she learned the process of reflecting on life.

Alisha Madison, a senior English education major, journeyed to Niigata, Japan Aug. 1-13 as part of the Niigata University of International and Information Studies' American Language and Cultural Studies Program.

Through the program, Japanese students came to the university for six weeks to learn English. A week before they left, Michael Steiner, university history professor, took an annual trip to Niigata to help prepare students for America.

Madison applied and was accepted to take the trek with Steiner and a handful of others. Her responsibilities included teaching a group of 12 the English of American culture.

"They would learn the written grammar part of English but not the American oral slang," Madison said. "I was there to teach them the phrases of 'what's up', etc."

Madison also instructed students in the differences of American and Japanese etiquette. An example was, while in America, to look people in the eyes when they spoke to them, an act which traditionally had been viewed as disrespectful in Japan.

Madison instructed them during the day in a formal setting. However, when out of the classroom, she believed they taught her more than she offered them.

"They had to listen to me all day; I was the 'smart one,'" Madison said. "But when they took me out shopping, to bars and restaurants, they had to do all the ordering for me. I was totally dependent on them all night. The exchange in learning was very cool."

The interaction with the students and the trip as a whole changed her life. Her thirst to travel and see more of the world became prominent.

"I want to add more to my passport," Madison said. "In some ways, my passport is more important than my driver's license."

While in Japan, Madison said she had a lot of time to think. She looked at the big picture more. Since she couldn't understand what people were saying, she really concentrated on Niigata's beauty.

Madison said she wanted more experiences where she knew nothing, and everytime she turned around there was something new. She realized documenting these excursions, and even daily life, mattered to her.

"Even though I am an English major, I was never really a creative writer," Madison said. "I never really kept a journal or anything. But when there, I felt the need to write what my overwhelmed senses were feeling so I wouldn't forget."

Recording her life and its beauty became a priority in Madison's life because of the trip.

"I now take the time to sit and reflect," Madison said. "I write in a journal three to four times a week."

Grateful for all the life lessons gained, Madison appreciated of the opportunity the university gave her.

"If I could pick my own vacation spot, I would never pick Asia," Madison said. "So I am so glad I got this experience."

Aaron, Moira
Akers, Kara
Anderson, Crystal
Angotti, Amy
Aschman, Paul
Azarkane, Nizar
Bagley, Lacey
Bailey, Meghan

Baker, Amanda
Baker, Pamela
Baldon, Jennifer
Baldon, Kathryn
Ballew, Rosetta
Barrett, Olivia
Baumgartner, Sarah
Benedix, Ashley

Bengton, Mandy
Bergmann, Ali
Berwick, Alyssa
Biermann, Tabitha
Billesbach, Kate
Bisil, Stephanie
Black, Courtney
Boettcher, Adam





Pohlmann, Adam
Bowen, Sherry
Box, Jacqueline



Bradford, Rachel
Bradley, John
Brandes, Ashley



Brandt, Leslie
Bredenoft, Kim
Brink, Aaron



Briscoe, Victoria
Brown, Bridget
Brown, Joshua



Brown, Lindsey
Brown, Nicole
Bruhn, Amanda



Brummel, Nick
Burnes, Tift
Burrell, Kamille



Cady, Laura
Caldwell, Audrey
Calkins, Heather



Campbell, Christine
Campbell, Desiree
Carpenter, Kevin



Carr, Amy
Carr, David
Casady, Jennifer



Casey, Patrick
Chabak, Eric
Chamberlain, Sara



Marketing/Management

Front Row: Janet Marra, Chi Lo Lim and Kishwar Jeonias. Row 2: Linda Duke, Cindy Kenkel, Tina Coffelt, Doug Russell and Steve Gilbert. Back Row: Brett Ware, Terry Coalter, Tom Billesbach, Jan Walker and Russ Northup.



Mathematics

Front Row: Margaret Euerman, Lynda Hollingsworth, Christina Heintz and Terry King. Row 2: Sharon Hulbert, Elaine Nichols, Denise Weiss, Christine Benson, Jawad Sadfk and Russ Euler. Back Row: Dennis Malm, David Vreger, Cheryl Malm, Brian Haile, Mary Shepherd and Scott Garten.



Psychology/Sociology

Front Row: Shelly Hiatt, Kyong ho Shin and Carol Clafin. Row 2: Mindy Russell-Stamp, Greg Loewen and Roger Neustadter. Row 3: Connie Teaney, Jerrv Burnett and Jackie Kibler. Back Row: Larry Riley, April Habervan and Doug Durham.

Chapman, Jason
Chappelow, Brent
Chimin Buele, Victor
Clifton, Anna
Cole, Sarah
Convers, Morgan
Cook, Kailea
Coverdell, Allison



Cox, Nick
Dake, Brooke
David, John
Davison, Lindsey
De Weese, Jeffrey
Dennis, Emily
Ditch, Ben
Dixon, Lindsey



Dumbrowski, Lydia
Dovel, Megan
Dulle, Jeremy
Duncan, Amanda
Dunn, Phillip
Dusenbery, Melissa
Eddy, Erin
Edwards, Nick



Egan, Kristie
Eggebrecht, Dana
Eickhoff, Jaime
Emberton, Katie
Escher, Angehta
Feather, Curtis
Ferguson, Megan
Fichtner, Amanda



Fiedler, Ben
Fisher, Megan
Fisher, Sarah
Foster, Tiffany
Fox, John
Frederick, Erin
Freeman, Ashlee
Freemyer, Danielle



Fuentes, Benjamin
Fuller, Kayla
Galbraith, Abby
Gale, Tiffany
Gardner, Amanda
Garnett, Allison
Gebring, Angela
Gerlt, Lurenda



Germer, Anitra
Guanchino, Molly
Gibler, Erin
Gibson, Scott
Gilland, Brett
Gillespie, Adam
Ginsler, Laura
Glaser, Nicki



Gollady, Sheddock
Gonzalez, Ada
Goymerac, Michael
Graf, Sarah
Graham, Robert
Gruenwald, Leslie
Grohman, Krystal
Grossenot, Rebekah



Guba, Nina
Hagedorn, Susan
Hagelin, Tana
Hall, Bradley
Hanev, Laura
Harris, Kirk
Harter, Ambra
Haslag, April



Hayes, Trevor
Hays, Amanda
Hays, Beth
Head, Amanda
Head, Marcy
Heard, Katie
Heerlein, Alexandra
Hejna, Alexis



Final bow

Al Sergel

He set goals at the start of his university career and left at their completion. He believed he'd accomplished what he set out to do and the time had come to give another professor the opportunity to lead the program.

Al Sergel, music instructor and director of bands, retired from the university after 22 years. He conducted all university musical ensembles except for the jazz bands, including the wind symphony, orchestra, marching band and symphonic band.

Sergel came to the university in 1981 after previously instructing at high schools in Georgia and Texas. When he accepted the job, he knew he wanted to work on restructuring the music opportunities.

"The program was not very strong when I took it," Sergel said. "I had goals to build it up and build relationships with area directors."

The accomplishments from his goal-setting included more than 20 years of growth and prosperity in the university's music department. In 1981, the marching band enrollment struggled to reach 60. By 1990, the numbers doubled and held steady at 150. Sergel said he felt proud it maintained that standard over time.

Sergel chartered a wind ensemble in 1984 because "there was a need for more challenges." It later transformed into a wind symphony in the '90s.

The concert band, later renamed symphonic band, had 50 members at his arrival and grew to sustain 100 students from 1995. Sergel said he was very proud of the quality and involvement on campus in terms of bands.

"We get a lot of retention," Sergel said. "Students enjoy it and want to continue."

Sergel aided in building a reputation over time where people understood the quality of the university bands and music program. Along with this character of high caliber came the creation of a family unit.

"Our bond is really caring about each other," Sergel said. "Each individual feels important to the program."

With all the accomplishments of increased enrollment and developed bonds, Sergel saw it as succeeding in his purpose. His family members believed this as well. In November, Sergel's son came across an article written about his father in 1981 where he stated his goals.

"My son said, 'hey dad, you realize you did all those things?'" Sergel said. "It was a very warm feeling."

With the decision to retire, Sergel wanted to focus on alternative ventures in his personal and professional life. He planned to relax for a year, possibly writing and composing



music. He published 12 pieces in the past and wanted the opportunity to pursue more. After a year in retirement, Sergel said he may look into other teaching opportunities.

Retiring from the university would also allow more time to spend with his family, as he planned on traveling frequently and visiting his two children and the grandchildren. Along with the sightseeing and family time, Sergel planned to devote extra effort into his passion of fishing.

The official retirement date stood at Aug. 1. As Sergel put it, "no more, no less." The time was then to hand over his office and clean out 20 years of memorabilia. His competition trophies, stacks of musical scores, textbooks and snapshots of smiling students, all had to be removed to make room for a new instructor. Sergel knew "there wasn't a good time to leave a good situation," but exited wishing his replacement the best of luck.

"I will be there if they need advice, but this is their program now," Sergel said. "I have to realize I made this decision."

At the request of students, Al Sergel plans to offer one final class during the summer. "Hopefully students can adapt to the new director and we can make a smooth transition to the new person from someone who has been here 22 years," Sergel said. *photo by Mike Dye*



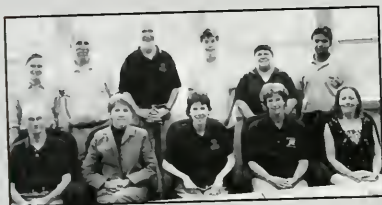
Hensin, Cadence
Hermreck, Kimberly
Herrin, Ruth
Herring, Angela
Hertlein, Rachel
Heuer, Megan
Hines, Rachael
Hirst, Lisa

Hookson, Valerie
Hotpat, Cameo
Holtman, Sandra
Howles, Jason
Hucke, Kelly
Huff, Lora
Huffman, Tracy
Hunkin, Lindsey



Curriculum and Instruction

Front Row: Margaret Drew, Preeti Suppal and Roanne Solheim.
Row 2: Barbara Crossland, Nancy Riley and Nancy Foley. Row
3: Carolyn McCall and Pat Thompson. Back Row: Jill Montcuc,
Shirly Stefens and Terry Lovelace.



Computer Science/Information Systems

Front Row: Gary McDonald, Carol Spralling, Joni Adkins, Nancy
Zelitt and Carolyn Hard. Back Row: Merry McDonald, Ernie
Ferguson, Phil Heeler, Judy Clark, Joyce Smith and Srikanth Siva.



English

Front Row: Chanda Funston, Beth Richards and Barbara Heasel.
Row 2: David Slater, Nancy Mayer, Michael Hobbs, Kerre Heintz,
Rebecca Aronson and Robin Gallaher. Row 3: Beth Rips, Brenda
Ryan, Steve Shively and John Gallaher. Row 4: Paul Jones, Tom
Hardee, Kenton Wilcox, Bruce Litte, Craig Goad. Back Row:
Corey Andrews and Wayne Chandler.



Hur, Go
Irsik, Maudie



Ives, Renee
Jacaway, Jessica



Jackson, Anthony
Jelavich, Michael



Jentsch, Nathan
Jeppesen, Daniel



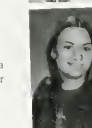
Johnson, Cody
Jones, Cate



Jones, Cassie
Jones, Dana



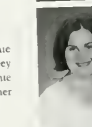
Jordan, Amanda
Jorgensen, Tyler



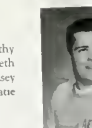
Kang, Song
Karabel, Amy



Kelly, Jamie
Kempf, Ashley
Kilpatrick, Stephanie
King, Christopher



Kitang, Timothy
Kloeewer, Elizabeth
Knight, Lindsey
Knobbe, Katie



Joao
Mendonca is
grateful to live in
small-town
America. He
planned on
taking his
experiences and
education back to
help his home
area of Espirito
Santo, Brazil.
photo by Mike Dye



Joao Mendonca

Faith guides homefront help

By Alice Smith

He did not want to keep the opportunity of coming to America for himself. Desiring to share what he learned, he sought God's guidance in reaching his dream to impact the world.

Joao Mendonca's home country of Brazil represented a place he wanted to make an impact on. As a geography major, Mendonca hoped to work in regional development.

"I may move back to Brazil sometime to help them," Mendonca said. "Brazil has a lot of potential, they just need social help. They have great resources, just not the education or planning to use them."

Mendonca first came to Grant City, Mo., his senior year of high school to learn English in an exchange program. Deciding to continue his education in the area, he enrolled at the university.

Since coming to America, he realized how much growing Brazil had to do. He said while being the most developed Third World country, with cities built like an American metropolis, the countryside was so poor people were starving, because they did not use resources properly.

Mendonca wished to take his skills learned at the university and aid the country in developing their rural land.

"Why stay locked up here in an office?" Mendonca said. "Sure, I'd make a good paycheck but not a difference."

Whatever happened in the future, Mendonca believed God determined it.

"God has a plan," Mendonca said. "I didn't expect to be here. Wherever Jesus takes me, it'll be all right. I may stay here longer, and that's ok too."

While living in America, religion became an important part in Mendonca's life. As a Catholic in Brazil, he said he had no other option because he was baptized as that. He went through Catholic schooling but didn't have much of a connection to it. In coming to America, he was "born again."

"Through the blood of Jesus, now, I've gained a new life, and created a more intimate relationship with this invisible being that is alive," he said.

Mendonca believed building a new relationship in his faith and acquiring education in America were life-changing phases that would shape his future in Brazil or any country.



Kuhn, Courtney
Kwan, King
Laber, Evan
Lajoie, Rebecca
Leber, Jessica
Lemke, Bryce
Lerette, Bryan
Lindahl, Alyssa

Lindsay, Seth
Lindsey, Terryn
Lode, Allen
Loemker, Stacey
Long, Erin
Long, Rachel
Lunzmann, Kristi
Lutzen, Nikki

Knowledgeable rewards

A job after graduation led to self-discovery and a trip home to the worn and cracked campus sidewalks he'd traveled once before.

After graduating in 1991 with a bachelor's degree in finance from Northwest, Jason White left Maryville and journeyed to Kansas City, Mo., where he believed happiness awaited. What he gained from the experience, however, made him a better man.

"I always thought I'd be a super-duper stockbroker, but that all changed," he said. "I did stocks for about a-year-and-a-half but was never happy. I knew I had a calling somewhere else."

His instincts were right. A telephone call to the economics department landed White a semester teaching position in 1997, while Associate Professor Mike Wilson took sabbatical in England.

White begged and pleaded with department chairs to keep him on staff once Wilson returned, but unfortunately, filled positions kept him at bay. He decided to continue his education and earned a doctorate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in hope a position would open, because White knew he'd found his calling - teaching.

In 1998, his dream of teaching at the university became a reality. A wife, two children and a successful career later, White said his teaching experience flew by. "I just recently turned 35, but I don't feel five years older," White said. "I feel the same as when I got here."

White said although his age kept creeping up, he considered himself a kid at heart. "I hope I will always be, because I'm a lot more comfortable hanging out with students than faculty," White said with a chuckle. "I don't mind going to The Pub on a Friday night. I think students like seeing me out of the classroom, because it lets them see I'm a real person."

White quickly became known as the economic professor students raved about. When students started signing up for trimester classes, White's were the first to close.

White had a strategy for each class he taught. He lectured for 20 minutes, discussed real world events and sports for another 20 minutes and tried to finish the class period with the remaining lecture.



Jason White

Teaching at his alma mater kept Jason White a 'kid at heart.' White came to the university after a change in his stockbroking career. photo by Mike Dye

"I'll do anything to keep them awake," he said. "I don't always like to talk about economics."

White's enthusiasm and love for teaching earned him various awards throughout his career. In November, The Southern Economics Association recognized White with the Kenneth G. Elzinga Distinguished Teaching Award. The award honored educators who made outstanding contributions to economics education at their university and beyond.

White said the awards and the gift of knowledge he gave students outweighed any paycheck he could have received as a stockbroker.

"I would have made more money in the private sector, but it never would have been as rewarding," White said. "I like sharing knowledge with people and teaching them something they haven't thought of before."



Family and Consumer Science

Front Row: Pat Gross, Dr. Ann Rowlette and Charlotte Stiens. Back Row: Frances Shipley, Jenell Ciak, Lauren Leach, Beth Gondge, Susan Baker, Jeanne Crawford and Debbie Clark.



Geology/Geography

Front Row: Renee Rohs, Ming-Chih Hung, Patricia Drews and Karen Hoskey. Row 2: James Hickey, Leah Manos, Richard Felton and Gregory Haddock. Back Row: Jeff Bradley and John Pope.



History, Humanities, Philosophy and Social Sciences

Front Row: Matt Johnson, Janice Brandon-Falcone, Patricia Headley, Rebecca Schelp and Krista Kupfer. Row 2: David McLaughlin, Joel Benson, Tom Spenser, Jason Stevens and Robert Dewhurst. Back Row: Dan Smith, Brian Hesse, Richard Field, Ron Ferris, Jim Eiswhert, Richard Fulton and Richard Frucht.



Lynn, Justin
Marnott, Nicole
Marshall, Lyntha
Marrille, Luney
May, Audrey
McAdams, Stephanie
McGinnis, T.J.
McKeown, Ryan

McLain, Melanie
McNeil, Janelle
Meggers, Emily
Mera-Martinez, Samua
Merick, Ashley
Meyer, Katrina
Miller, Adam
Miller, Christine

Moe, Carrie
Moeller, Britney
Moody, Meredith
Moore, Megan
Moore, Sean
Murphy, Bethany
Muthia, Christine
Mutz, Angela

Nagatomo, Mai
Neil, Rachel
Nichols, Kelsey
Nixon, Kathleen
Novelli, Dan
Nunnikhoven, Nathan
Nutting, Adam
Olms, Kristina

Osborn, Rachel
Oser, Tara
Packard, Heidi
Pankau, Brent
Park, Junghoon
Patton, Stacey
Payne, Carrie
Pelham, Christopher

Perna, Kacie
Peterson, Dawn
Phillips, Meredith
Pinder, Rachel
Piper, Jennifer
Pitts, Brandy
Polari, John
Polanski, Shannon

Pope, Lee
Posten, Angela
Powers, Jacqueline
Prest, Amanda
Pritchard, Suzanne
Ramirez, Elizabeth
Ramsey, Tim
Ray, Harold

Reece, Charlie
Remig, Rebecca
Renshaw, Kara
Reschke, Amy
Rudens, Stephanie
Rox, Jeff
Roberson, Erin
Roberts, Erin

Rockhold, Brandon
Rosser, Debra
Rusco, Christine
Rust, Mike
Ryder, Hannah
Schaffer, Jeannae
Schelp, Rebecca
Schiebet, Ashley

Schmalt, Jessica
Schnakenberg, Sarah
Schroder, Karissa
Schroer, Matthew
Schumacher, Rachel
Schwarz, Laura
Shenter, Lindsay
Shutes, Heidi

Closure

of a generation gap

by *Amber Bowe*

A 4.0 GPA, undergraduate research projects, countless student organizations, dreams to get a Ph.D. and teach in Hawaii were all components of a motivated college student.

Then, add a husband of 18 years, a daughter and a grandchild.

Older than most of her professors at 52, Diana Schnarrenberger could have been labeled by her nontraditional student status. However, she took every opportunity to live the traditional college life.

After her daughter, Melissa, left home and made it through college, Schnarrenberger decided she would do the same. While still committed in a marriage with her husband, Alan, in Kansas City, Mo., Schnarrenberger went back to college, approximately 90 miles away from him.

Figuring she could obtain a teaching degree in a few years, she believed their marriage could last. When she changed her major to geography and environmental geography, however, it extended her stay to four years.

"My husband didn't want me to come up here, but he has worked hard at being supportive," Schnarrenberger said.

The distance between them put a strain on things. Schnarrenberger's busy schedule made it hard for her to travel home. She partook in nearly every outlet the department had to offer with activities such as arranging faculty birthday parties, lab assisting and participating in honor societies for her perfect grades.

"I do all the organizations, because I really love it," Schnarrenberger said. "I love being around kids. I want to get a master's degree and teach while pursuing a Ph.D. in geology."

Schnarrenberger believed a full resume aided in the graduate school placement of her choice, the University of Hawaii in Honolulu.

"My husband did not like the idea of more schooling," Schnarrenberger said. "So, when I brought up grad school, he wasn't for it—until I said Hawaii. That's where we've always wanted to live. We've taken 11 trips there, so we want to end up there."



Diana Schnarrenberger

Education was important to Schnarrenberger, but in her eyes it did not become her biggest achievements. Without hesitation, she said Melissa, her only child, represented her best work.

Showing she admired her mother for her accomplishments, Melissa gave her a Mother's Day gift in 2003 that Schnarrenberger held dear to her heart.

"My daughter gave me this class ring," Schnarrenberger said proudly as she showed it off. "She had never wanted one, but she knew how much I did."

The ring, given to Schnarrenberger by her "greatest accomplishment," signified age did not matter, for life can be lived all over again at 50. She did not let her age become of relevance. She only found humor in it.

"There's just something about going home to take the ACT and finding your first AARP mailing on the table."

Diana Schnarrenberger strives to get the most of life while working toward a bachelor's degree at age 52. She took advantage of all the university had to offer during the second leg of her life.

photo by Mike Dye



Slaten, Jamie
Smith, Jennifer
Smith, Jennifer
Smith, Krystle
Smith, Megan
Smith, Miles
Smith, Miranda



Snodgrass, Courtney
Sparks, Bradley
Spegal, Erin
Spiegel, Laura
Stangel, Stephanie
Steffen, Derek
Stehly, Elizabeth



Stiens, Anthony
Stilson, Joanne
Stobbe, Amanda
Stumme, Lori
Sueyoshi, Mironu
Swanson, Jaclyn
Sweeton, Ryan



Swift, Stephanie
Swink, Kara
Switzer, Nichole
Switzer, Tracey
Syehra, Tami
Tablet, Amanda
Terry, Stephen



Teubner, Sarah
Tholen, Taylor
Thomas, Jennifer
Thomas, Scott
Thu, Bryan
Thurman, Leanne
Todd, Matthew



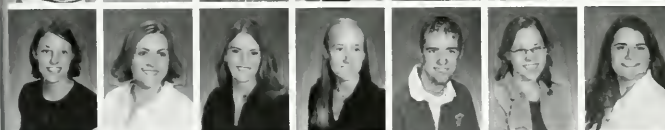
Toebben, Julie
Tran, Crystal
Turner, Lewis
Umscheid, Amanda
Umstadt, Dan
Undersood, Henry
Van Dusseldorp, Katie



Van Zante, Alisa
Vescovo, Laura
Vorthmann, Cassi
Vostret, Liz
Watson, Nicholas
Webster, Jill
Webster, Mallory



Weis, Kim
Wells, Thomas
Wendt, Joseph
Wenman, Beth
Whipple, Dana
Wicker, Renee
Williams, Jerard



Willingham, Joni
Willson, Crystal
Witte, Allison
Wittmaack, Ashley
Wize, Michael
Wright, Nicole
Wynn, Heather



Young, Sara
Zenor, Katie
Ziegler, Shannon
Zimmerschied, Sarah

Academic acceleration

by TERRY HAYES

Most high school students didn't think about supporting themselves, but 17-year-old academy student Michael Troxel learned early.

Troxel left high school after running out of classes the end of sophomore year. He applied to the Missouri Academy after hearing about it from another student at school. He learned the academy gave advanced high school students a place to finish their high school diploma and dually receive an associate's degree from the university.

"I had exhausted the academic resources of my high school," Troxel said. "There was basically nothing left there. It provided a new avenue for new challenges."

Due to family problems, Troxel moved out of his parent's home just south of St. Louis after spending his junior year at the academy. He became independent and got a job to support himself through the summer.

With money saved at the end of summer, he took a bus and visited six cities including Princeton, N.J. Since seventh grade, Troxel hoped to attend Princeton University and study astrophysics or psychology after graduating from the Missouri Academy.

"I wanted to experience a culture that wasn't here," Troxel said. "I really just wanted to get somewhere else and see how life was like there. I wanted to go to the places I've always read about but never seen."

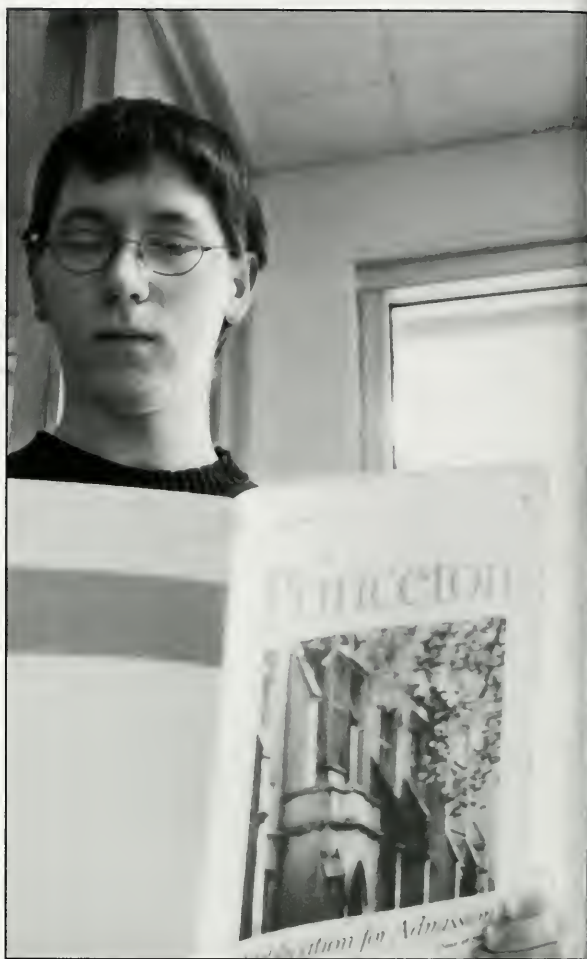
Troxel traveled along the East Coast for six days leaving behind everything and everyone he had ever known.

"It was very exhilarating," Troxel said. "It's an interesting thing to leave and have no goals, no restrictions, just to go and experience a way of life that you're not used to. You learn a lot about yourself."

Even though he lived alone for a summer, Troxel learned he didn't want to be as independent as he thought. Being constantly surrounded by other students at the academy made him want to get away from all the people, but he felt a void when miles separated him from his friends.

"Being alone in a foreign place really reminded me how much that, even though I dislike being surrounded by people constantly, I really don't want to be alone in life," Troxel said.

Even though he moved out of his own home, Troxel didn't always feel alone in the world. His grandmother's couch served as a place to crash during breaks from school, and he found his true home at the academy.



Michael Troxel

"I've got a great family here," Troxel said. "After living for a year with a group of people very much like yourself, you can't help but love them."

Because of the academy's 8 p.m. weekday and 10:30 p.m. weekend curfews, students spent long hours together in close quarters.

"It's pretty close to a marriage," he said. "We love each other, and we'd do anything for each other, but sometimes, after being cooped up with each other for a long time, you just want to get away from each other."

Troxel's travels enabled him to do that. He got away from everything he knew. He saw a new culture and took a step toward new challenges and opportunities at Princeton, where he planned on earning his doctorate before setting up a private practice, researching or teaching.

"If I could stay in school for the rest of my life and continue learning, that would be great, but obviously, that's not financially possible," he said. "I want to learn as much as possible, go through life, meet as many people as possible, live with as many different types of people, just experience life in general."

Missouri Academy student Michael Troxel works toward acceptance to Princeton University. A six day journey to visit the school taught him the lessons of life and friendship. *photo*

Mike Dye



Babbar, Ramandeep
 Bahram-Ahi, Emily
 Baker, Aaron
 Banaszek, Tara
 Bartholomew, Bethany
 Berry, Elijah
 Blackenship, Joshua

Blount, Ralph
 Blum, Michael
 Brigham, Daniel
 Brittingham, Anthony
 Carrow, Meagan
 Cochell, Thomas
 Crouch, Brina

Damio, Jason
 Davis, Lauren
 Dawson, Elsha
 DeGrange, Whitney
 Dempsey, Peter
 Dotson, Laura
 Dotson, William

Eckstein, Sasha
 Ehlebracht, Lily
 Elking, Tiffany
 Fitzgerald, Erica
 Frazier, Alexander
 Garg, Aadhar
 Glenn, Erica

Gorham, Jack
 Graf, Peter
 Halauats, Amber
 Herrera, Mark
 Hoffman, Jessica
 Hotmer, Brittany
 Hunt, Cassandra

Johnson, Chris
 Jones, Catherine
 Krehiel, Kacy
 Leicht, Rob
 Lewis, Christopher
 Luttrell, Andrew
 Malan, Irene

Marsh, Matthew
 Mayes, Jeddiah
 Mehta, Ami
 Mehta, Megha
 Mobley, Tom
 Newman, Jessica
 Newport, Nicholas

Philpot, Chris
 Posada, Maria
 Raines, Summer
 Rhodes, Sharon
 Rode, Amanda
 Rounds, Isaac
 Rudolph, Angela

Shaffer, Jessica
 Smith-Martinez, Elena
 Spencer, Andy
 Stretch, Cassandra
 Tullock, Charles
 Underwood, Steven
 Veligati, Sashank

Wack, Mary
 Wagoner, Ali
 Wang, Ge
 Williamson, Brad

Index

A

102 River Wildlife Club 220
4for1 24
Aaron, Moira 241, 294
Accounting Society 246
Ackerman, Derick 265
Acklin, Kinsey 258
Adams, Dave 226
Adams, Kristina 265
Adlnk 246, 249
Adkins, Joni 251, 198
Ag Ambassadors 246
Agee, Lori 241
Agriculture Club 246
Agronomy Club 246
Ahlrichs, Katy 224
Ahlrichs, Rob 224
Ajmani, Varun 228
Akers, Kara 294
Albee, Edward 66
Albright, Jamie 243
Alcohol Education 42
Alderton, Adam 222
Alderton, Lydia 222, 261, 265
Alexander, David 220
Alexander, Krisi 228
Allen, Deanna 224, 258
Allen, Matt 164
Alliance of Black Collegians 220
Alpha Gamma Rho 26, 236
Alpha Kappa Lambda 19
Alpha Omega 248
Alpha Psi Omega 248
Alpha Sigma Alpha
21, 24, 26, 219, 236, 237
Alpha Tau Alpha 248
Alsup, Richard 182, 184, 200
American Association of Family
and Consumer Science 248
American Marketing Association
250
Amnesty International
26, 34, 219, 221
Anderson, Crystal 294
Anderson, Jill 188, 189
Anderson, Joe 215
Anderson, Tiffany 231
Andorfer, Rachel 252
Andregg, Christopher 246
Andrews, Corey 298

Andrews, Deron 220
Andrews, Emily 18
Angotri, Amy 224, 294
Annan, Kofi 92
Anselmo, Ronnie 182, 201
Anthony, Michael 51, 56, 57
Antisdel, Amanda 220, 265
Applebee's 38
Appleberry, Jamie 254
Armstrong, Lance 87
Arndorfer, Rachel 228
Arnold, Natalie 256
Arnold, Sara 261
Aronson, Rebecca 298
Arora, Heramb 228
Arthur, Lindsey 246
Arviso, Gavin 85
Arya, Puneet 228
Ascherman, Paul 258, 294
Ashbacher, Anna 265
Asian Student Association
222, 223
Askey, Stefani 228
Aspegren, Rick 236, 247
Association for Computer Machin-
ery 220
Association of Nontraditional
Students 222
Atkins, Amanda 24, 228, 232
Attell, Dave 51, 76
Atwell, Madison 74
Aubrey, Mark 182, 183, 201
Auxier, Vicki 80
Awtry, Jill 18, 243, 252, 265
Ayala, Dan 44
Ayers, Chris 222
Ayers, Daniel 261
Ayers, Misty 222, 250
Azarkane, Nizar 228, 230, 294

B

Babbra, Ramandeep 305
Babbra, Rummi 228
Baerga, April 220
Bagley, Lacey 294
Bagley, Matt 234
Bahram-ahi, Emily 33, 305
Bailey, Lia 197
Bailey, Meghan 294
Baine, Keelin 201
Baird, David 81
Baird, Sarah 149
Baker, Aaron 305
Baker, Amanda 228, 261, 294
Baker, Jamie 36, 37
Baker, Jessica 235
Baker, Matt 9, 42
Baker, Pamela 228, 294
Baker, Susan 300
Baldon, Jennifer 294
Baldon, Kathryn 294
Baldwin, Nathan 246
Bali, Ruchira 228
Balk, Derck 110
Ball, Alan 74, 75
Ballantyne, Justin 81
Ballard, Nicole 228
Ballew, Rosetta 294
Balwanz, Josh 242
Banaszek, Tara 305
Bansal, Utkarsh 228
Baptist Student Union 221, 222
Barbour, Kristin 265
Barfoot, Hannah 69
Barlow, Cassie 244
Barmann, Sarah 235, 241, 244
Barnes, Taylor
98, 119, 122, 131, 133, 135
Barnett, Jerrod 258
Barnett, Jerry 295
Barr, Rod 264
Barreca, Michelle 241
Barrett, Greta 244
Barrett, John 265
Barrett, Olivia 234, 294
Bartel, Andrea 265
Bartels, Shelby
235, 236, 258, 265
Bartelson, Christine 228
Bartholaw, Malinda 261
Bartholomaus, Bethany 305
Bartholow, Malinda
224, 226, 248, 265
Barton, Shera 259
Basinger, Jessica 248, 265
Battisson, Robert 188, 189
Baudoin, Chad 241
Baumgartner, Sarah 248, 294
Baumli, Mary 153
Baur, Tiffany 235, 241, 250
Baxley, Nicole 258, 265
Baxter, Evalyne 228, 261, 265
Beagley, Joab 180
Bearcat Steppers 222
Beard, Karen 22
Beatty, Aaron 242
Beatty, Marie 224
Beaulieu, Natasha 250, 259
Beavers, Robert 265
Becker, Bryan 224, 235
Beckett, Josh 86
Beggs, Sarah 258, 259, 265
Beim, Amanda 246
Bell, Jeff 90
Belton, Katie 265
Bender, Bobi 224
Benedict, Kenny 242

Benedix, Ashley 294
Bengtson, Mandy 294
Benninga, Mike 180
Benson, Christine 295
Benson, Joel 136, 300
Benson, Jordan 228
Bent Left 312
Benton, Crystal 12, 234
Berger, Nicole 213
Berger, Sean 224, 246
Bergmann, Ali 261, 294
Bernhardt, Megan 224, 240
Berry, Elijah 305
Berry, Valerie 246
Bert, Lauren 241
Bertles, Kurt 180
Berwick, Alyssa 5, 294
Bessler, Jenna 224
Beta Beta Beta 250
Biermann, Danelle 253, 265
Biermann, Drew 220
Biermann, Tabitha 244, 294
Bilke, Nathan 249, 253, 259
Billesbach, Kate 294
Billesbach, Tom 295
Birdsong, Tiffanie 52, 55
Bisbee, Bonnie 140, 220, 231
Bishop, Barbie 244
Bixinmen, Tracie 147
Bizal, Stephanie
224, 249, 255, 294
Blackburn, Rich 264
Blair, Mike 242
Blair, Richard 288, 289, 307
Blanchard, Amber 241, 254, 255
Blanchard, Natalie 241
Blankenship, Joshua 305
Blay, Meghan 197
Blazek, Courtney 294
Blocher, Amy 265
Blocher, Becky 265
Blount, Ralph 305
Blue Key National Honor Frater-
nity 250
Blue Man Group 55
Blum, Michael 305
Blume, Kellie 242, 265
Blumer, Michelle 132
Blunk, Cayla 258, 265
Board of Regents
126, 128, 131, 135
Bobby Bearcat
113, 161, 164, 198
Boden, Nicholas 265
Boedeker, Ricky 265
Boerigter, Bob 113, 171
Boerigter, John 171
Boerigter, Marc 171
Boettcher, Adam 294
Bogley, Matthew 228

- ohannon, Tiffany 11, 232
 ohaunon, Amanda 246
 ohlmann Kunz, Adam 295
 oles, Shawna 265
 oley, Brian 215
 ollinger, Geoff 180
 olton, Michael 220
 onnett, Greg 180
 orcyk, Jamie 232
 osley, Scott 55
 ossung, Mary 248
 ostwick, Chad 28, 180, 181
 othof, John 214, 215
 oulter, Sara 244
 owen, Sherry 243, 295
 owers, Nicole
 231, 236, 241, 258
 owers, Ryan 180
 owser, Justin 180
 ox, Jacqueline 295
 oyce, David 113
 oyd, Chasity 83
 oyd, Daniel 180
 oyce, Desirae 232, 244, 255
 Bradford, Rachel 226, 295
 Bradley, Jeff 300
 Bradley, John 295
 Brady, John 231
 Brady, Tom 87
 Brafman, Benjamin 85
 Bramlage, Angela 246, 265
 Brandes, Ashley 295
 Brandon-Falcone, Janice
 106, 300
 Brandt, Leslie 295
 Brawner, Scott 265
 Brazil, Amber 254, 261, 265
 Bredehoeft, Aimee 246
 Bredehoeft, Kim 224, 295
 Bredehoeft, Maria 8
 Bridger, Deidra 251
 Briggs, Angela 249
 Brigham, Daniel 305
 Brink, Aaron 295
 Briscoe, Victoria 295
 Bristle, Brad 236
 Brittingham, Anthony 305
 Britton, Layne 249, 253
 Brockman, Michelle 231
 Brockman, Tom 265
 Brokaw, Heather 182, 201
 Bromert, Nick 164
 Brommer, Patrick 257
 Brooker, Amanda 42
 Brooks, Brian A. 220
 Brouse, DaNelle 259
 Brow, Marsha 241
 Brown, Allison 231, 266
 Brown, Andy 257
 Brown, Bridget
 138, 231, 261, 295
 Brown, Christine 10, 234, 235
 Brown, David 241
 Brown, Harold 147, 264
 Brown, Joshua 295
 Brown, Kathryn 244
 Brown, Lindsey 295
 Brown, Nicole 252, 295
 Brownly, Travis 201
 Broyles, Laveda 248
 Brucia, Carlie 90
 Bruhn, Amanda 295
 Brumm, Lisa 266
 Brummel, Nick 295
 Bruner, Drew 220
 Brunker, Jenny 243
 Brunkhorst, Randa
 242, 246, 266
 Bryant, Robert 264
 Bryant, Veronica 228
 Buchanan, Bobbie 111
 Buchanan, Danielle 111
 Buck, Erin 252
 Buckley, Eric 257, 266
 Buckner, Marcy 266
 Buckridge, Bret 180
 Bucy, Melanie 137, 250
 Budden, Alex 214, 215
 Buerman, Margaret 295
 Buffalo Bills 171
 Bull, Afton 266
 Bunch, Aaron 259
 Buners, Nicole 250
 Burchett, Lance 113
 Buresh, Dana 228
 Burgess, Mary 232, 258, 266
 Burke, Bobby 234
 Burklund, Brent 260, 261
 Burmeister, Jon 246, 266



Performing for students during Advantage Week Nathan Rivera, John Kindler and Richard Elair take freshmen through a different atmosphere of Freshmen Seminar. Students enjoyed music and refreshments while taking a study break in Roberts Hall. photo by Mike Dye

Burnes, Taft 245, 295
 Burns, Billy 215
 Burns, Danny 106, 246
 Burns, Keely
 241, 243, 255, 256, 257
 Burrell, Kamille 235, 236, 295
 Burrell, Kayli 235, 236, 237
 Burroughs, David 209, 266
 Burson, Oakley 228
 Busch-Bullock, Marianne 237
 Bush, George
 16, 34, 60, 89, 90, 91, 92
 Bush, Justin 57, 261
 Byers, Alison 243
 Byler, Amanda 220, 226



Caballero, Ximena 226, 227
 Cabanis, Anne-Laure 265
 Cabinet 122
 Cadle, Chris 246
 Cady, Laura 295
 Calbert, Diezeas 180, 201
 Caldwell, Angie 266
 Caldwell, Audrey 258, 295
 Caldwell, Monica 231, 266
 Calgary Stampede 171
 Calkins, Heather 295
 Calote, Mark 242
 Calton, Elizabeth A. 230
 Cameron, Jennifer 252, 266
 Campbell, Christine 220,
 235, 295
 Campbell, Cindy
 244, 250, 257, 266
 Campbell, Cody 180
 Campbell, Desiree
 18, 40, 234, 243, 295
 Campbell, Jamie 188
 Campbell, Kim 255, 257
 Campbell, Tommy 236, 246,
 247, 266
 Campus Crusade for Christ 224
 Campus Crusade for Christ
 (Leadership Group) 224
 Cantrell, Colby 266
 Capoor, Yash 228
 Carder, Niki 221, 222
 Cardinal Key 224
 Carkeek, Tracy 266
 Carlin, Jon 241, 266
 Carlson, Adam 236, 246
 Carlson, Lucas 236
 Carpenter, Kalyn 244
 Carpenter, Kevin 220, 295
 Carpenter, Shaun 246, 266
 Carr, Amy

 34, 220, 226, 227, 261, 295
 Carr, David 241, 252, 295
 Carrico, Lisa 264
 Carrillo, Malisa 226
 Carroll, Jane 34
 Carrow, Meagan 305
 Carter, Katie 243
 Carter, Kelly 216
 Cartier, Danielle 213
 Carver, Elizabeth 244, 266
 Casady, Jennifer 246, 295
 Casey, Patrick 242, 295
 Castle, Ryan 245
 Cat Crew 8, 9
 Caton, Darby 266
 Cats 51, 72
 Cerda, Jamie 242
 Chabak, Eric 295
 Chadwick, Candi 266
 Chalmers, Jane 197
 Chamberlain, Kathryn 137, 261
 Chamberlain, Sara 232, 259, 295
 Champlin, Jace 180
 Chandler, Wayne 298
 Chapman, Jason 296
 Chappelow, Brent
 234, 246, 248, 259, 296
 Charley, Roger 224
 Chase, Rachael 51, 236, 256
 Chen, Shu-Yun 223
 Cheney, Dick 91
 Cherne, Lindsey 257
 Chervek, Nathan 266
 Chifton, Anna 232
 Chinin Buele, Victor 162, 296
 Chinn, Jason 29, 180
 Chiodini, Theresa 259, 261
 Chopra, Sumit 266
 Christensen, Cortnee 266
 Christian Campus House 224
 Christian, Juaquinta 220
 Christionson, Nate 182
 Chumley, Damien 180
 Ciak, Jenell 300
 Ciaramitaro, William 214, 215,
 266
 Cipolla, Christina 187
 Citizens for Smoke-Free Maryville
 36
 Claflin, Carol 295
 Clarence, Bilal 192
 Clark, Darcell 180
 Clark, Debbie 300
 Clark, Jacqueline 266
 Clark, Jordan 257, 266
 Clark, Judy 298
 Clark, Steve 31
 Clark, Wesley 90
 Claxton, Sheena 188
 Clayton, Jocelyn 150
 Clemens, Brett 180
 Clemens, Roger 86
 Clifton, Anna 296
 Clifton, Brent 201
 Clime, Kim 235, 243
 Cloverdyke, Cameron 208, 242
 Coalter, Terry 295
 Cobb, Samara 250, 266
 Cochell, Thomas 305
 Coffelt, Tina 295
 Coffey, Billy 246
 Cole, Maggie 10
 Cole, Sarah 243, 259, 296
 Coleman, Anita 222, 255
 Coleman, Callie 220, 245, 266
 Colling, Alan 241
 Collins, Andrea 257, 266
 Collins, Christine 188, 268
 Collins, Josh 246
 Collins, Rachael
 249, 253, 259, 268
 Colter, Sarah 244
 Colwell, Christie 13, 228, 234
 Comeau, Anna 244
 Comedy Central 51
 Comer, Sean 261
 Comes, Daniel 251, 268
 Comes, Elizabeth 244
 Common Ground 226, 227
 Compton, Hailey 236, 237
 Conary, Heather 216
 Conn, James 245
 Connel, Brian 242
 Connot, Arren 246
 Conyers, Morgan 220, 296
 Cook, Jenna 224, 257, 268
 Cook, Jonathan 220
 Cook, Justin 242
 Cook, Kailea 202, 203, 296, 201
 Cook, Kenny 180
 Cook, Ryan 220
 Cooke, Bill 29
 Coons, Matt 215
 Cooper, Jessica 241, 246
 Cooper, Ashlee 224, 228
 Coplen, Kelly 20, 21
 Coppel, Amber 268
 Copps, Michael 84
 Cornett, Chase
 224, 233, 235, 241
 Correll, Matt 241
 Corson, Mark 285
 Cosby, Bill 106
 Cothrine, Burne'a 235
 Counihan, Sean 220, 268
 Country Faith 226
 Countryside Bistro 39
 Couric, Katie 84
 Courter, Ray 98, 121, 135
 Courter, Scott 180
 Coverdell, Allison 296
 Cowles, Carol 232

Cox, Lisa 268
 Cox, Nick 296
 Cradick, Summer 241, 268
 Craig, Bobby 245
 Craine, Jason 260
 Cramer, Dale 25
 Crane, Rebecca 236
 Crane, Sharon 268
 Crawford, Cody 242
 Crawford, Jeanne 300
 Crawford, Keri 255, 268
 Crawford, Megan 257
 Crawford, Rachel 162
 Creason, Mike 215
 Creger, Andy 173, 180
 Crenshaw-Gardner, John 234
 Criminal Justice Club 250
 Criner, Tiffany 241, 268
 Croisant, Lindsey 21
 Cronin, Colleen 236
 Cronk, Richard 180
 Croskey, Jennifer 220
 Cross, Tracy 188, 189, 272
 Crossland, Barbara 298
 Crotty, Russell 257
 Crouch, Brina 305
 Crouch, Ross 245, 252
 Crouse, Lindsey 216
 Cruth, Matt 215
 Crystal Tran 244
 Cuda, Kristi 244
 Cultural Exchange Club 251
 Cumiale, Christine 242, 246, 268
 Cunigan, Derick 220
 Cunningham, Ashley 226,
 232, 268
 Cunningham, Brian 268



Dabm, Jeff 208
 Dake, Brooke 296
 Dalzell, Kim 241
 D'Amato, Amy 187
 Daming, Jason 33, 305
 Dance and Drag Show 227
 Daniel, Karen 129
 Daniel, Ryan 246
 Daniels, Sariah 224, 257
 Daubert, Doug 264
 David, Janelle 220
 David, John 296
 Davis, Jennifer 244
 Davis, Kenneth Jr. 232
 Davis, Latonya 106
 Davis, Lauren 305
 Davis, Neal 264

- Davis, Stephanie 222
 Davisson, Lindsey 244, 296
 Dawson, Elisha 305
 Day, Leah 187
 Day, Rebecca 232, 246
 DeWeese, Jefferey 296
 Dean, Howard 90
 Decker, Mandy 222
 Decker, Merc 252, 168
 Deets, Brandon 224
 DeGraaf, Michael L. 242
 DeGrange, Whitney 305
 Deimeke, Nick 247, 268
 DeJongh-Slight, Lori 187
 DelSignore, Nicholas 55, 261
 Delaney, McCarten 236, 250, 268
 Delanty, Derick 182
 Delehant, Ryan 261
 Delhomme, Jake 87
 DeLong, Laura 261
 Delta Chi 16, 24, 26, 31
 Delta Mu Delta 148, 250
 Delta Tau Alpha 250
 Delta Zeta 26, 45, 240
 Demir, Sibel 268
 Dempsey, Peter 305
 Dencklau, Danielle 268
 Denney, Meghan 228, 234, 243
 Dennis, Emily 224, 296
 Dennis, Heather 249, 255
 Deperalta, Ebony 268
 DePriest, Jarrett 236
 Desouza, Stephanie 228
 Dettmer, Emily 249, 255, 268
 Dev Choudhury, Shyam 228
 Dewhurst, Robert 300
 Dexheimer, Billy 24
 Dey, Jenna 243, 258
 Dhir, Siddharth 228
 Di Luctano, Martino 71
 Dicke, Tarryn 231, 241, 242, 251, 268
 Dickerson, Tiffany 115
 Dickey, Erica 228
 Diego, Larrea 268
 Dietrich, Glen 80
 DigEM 252
 Digiovanni, Lisa 57, 244
 Dignan, Kyle 248
 Dill, Dana 245
 Dillon, Kristina 216
 Dimmitt, Kimberly 255, 268
 Disselhoff, Abby 201, 241
 Ditsch, Ben 296
 Dix, Emily 24, 25, 80, 132, 224, 231, 233, 235, 241, 250, 251, 268
 Dixon, Lindsey 224, 244, 296
 Dodd, Daley 222, 236
 Dode, Jillian 201
 Dohrman, Caleb 180
 Dombrowski, Lydia 234, 235, 296
 Donaldson, John 270
 Donovan, Andrew 215
 Doolittle, Stephanie 243
 Doswell, Chuck 82
 Dotson, Laura 118, 305
 Dorson, William 305
 Doudna, Lisa 224, 248, 256, 270
 Dougherty, Eric 236
 Douglas, Sandra 252
 Dovel, Megan 222, 226, 266
 Dowman, Kelly 222
 Dozark, Amanda 270
 Drew, Margaret 298
 Drewes, Josh 180
 Dews, Patricia 285, 300
 Driftmire, Molly 10
 Driggers, Adam 242
 Drummond, Erin 241
 Dryer, Charles 81
 Dubolino, Tony 44
 Duering, Brian 252
 Duffey, Keith 226
 Dugan, Brian 242
 Dugan, Dave 187, 214, 215
 Dugan, Sean 242
 Duggan, Brad 231
 Duke, Linda 295
 Dulle, Jeremy 296
 Duncan, Amanda 259, 296
 Dunham, Doug 295
 Dunlap, Michael 270
 Dunlap, Patrick 235, 270
 Dunn, Marcella 270
 Dunn, Phillip 223, 235, 296
 Dunsworth, Jason 180
 Durnus, Levent 270
 Dusenbery, Melissa 228, 250, 296
 Duvall, David 121
 Dye, Michael 260, 261



- Eades, Jonathan 44
 Eagan, Jessica 244
 Earnhart, Joshua 242
 Easley, Kyle 246
 Easterla, David 220
 Eboh, Ken 180
 Ebrecht, Bob 168
 Eckstein, Sasha 248, 305



ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

Aspire, Seek, Attain!

Congratulations to our graduating seniors!

Eddy, Erin 296
 Edgar, Brian 82
 Edgar, Christy 83
 Edgar, Neil 83
 Edmonds, John 180
 Edwards, Carla 131, 258
 Edwards, John 90
 Edwards, Kristen 55, 260, 261
 Edwards, Nick 296
 Egan, Kristie 228, 257, 296
 Egeland, Carla 224, 270
 Eggebrecht, Dana 296
 Eggers, Traci 197
 Ehlebracht, Lily 305
 Eickhoff, Ashley 249, 253, 259
 Eickhoff, Jaime 33, 296
 Eickhoff, Ryan 33
 Eimer, Adam 242, 270
 Eisaman, Alicia 243
 Eischeid, Michelle
 236, 241, 252
 Eiswert, Jim 136, 300
 Eldred, Paula 270
 Eliot, T.S. 72, 73
 Elkin, Emily 197
 Elking, Tiffany 305
 Elliot, Brad 182
 Elliott, Melissa 235, 251, 252,
 270
 Ellis, Carla 270

Ellis, Jennifer 247, 270
 Ellwanger, Megan 44, 243
 Emberton, Katie 296
 Emporia State University
 187, 189
 Encore Performances 73
 Ensler, Eve 335
 Epperson, Tara 252, 270
 Epps, Sheri 232
 Equestrian Team 26, 226
 Erks, Drew 188, 215
 Erwin, Ashlee 224, 259, 270
 Escher, Angelita 224, 296
 Espeer, Amy 236
 Espey, Adam 209
 Estep, Matt 231
 Estes, Andrea 220, 270
 Estes, Bobby 140
 Estes, Dana 257
 Esther, Joe 236, 246
 Ethridge, Russell 270
 Euler, Karamaneh 249
 Euler, Russ 295
 Evans, Mitchell 246
 Ewing, Adam 270
 Ewing, Stephanie 222
 Eye, Brian 220
 Eye, Derek 220, 270
 Eyo, Ukpang 228

F

Fairchild, Keri 110, 250
 Fairhurst, Andrew 220
 Falkner, E.J. 180, 201
 Family Day 21
 Farmer, David
 220, 231, 250, 270
 Farquhar, Edward 119, 264
 Faulkner, E.J. 203
 Feather, Curtis 296
 Fehring, Kate 241, 270
 Feich, Mike 175
 Felton, Richard 300
 Ferguson, Ernie 220, 298
 Ferguson, Josh 241
 Ferguson, Kara 235
 Ferguson, Lindsey 222, 241
 Ferguson, Megan 224, 257, 296
 Ferguson, Nick 270
 Ferris, Ron 300
 Fiala, Laci 224, 252, 255, 270
 Fichtner, Amanda 243, 296

Fiech, Mike 29, 180
 Fiedler, Ben 296
 Field, Eugene 80
 Field, Richard 300
 Fields, Tanesha 197
 Fillion, Nicole 246, 201
 Financial Management Associa-
 tion 252
 Finch, Heath 180
 Findley, Jared 175, 180
 Finke, Kristen 235, 243
 Firebaugh, Cassidy 241
 First Baptist Church of Maryville
 221
 Fisher, Heather 257
 Fisher, Jesse 224, 270
 Fisher, John 257
 Fisher, Megan 228, 258, 296
 Fisher, Richard 24
 Fisher, Sarah 296
 Fitzgerald, Erica 305
 Fitzgerald, Lacey 228
 Fixter, Tiffany 236, 296
 Flag Corps 252
 Flaherty, Josh 31
 Flattery, Colette 241
 Fleming, Catherine 243, 270
 Flinn, Casey 236
 Flock, Jeff 89
 Flohr, Charlie 180

Sigma



CONGRATULATION SENIORS! WE WILL MISS YOU!

lorence, Daniel 257
 lloyd, Elson 98, 335
 lynn, Dallas 180, 201
 lynn, Julie 224, 270
 lyle, Nancy 298
 Folkloric of Latin America 226
 Fonoti, Raymond 180
 Fonoti, Richard 180
 Fontaine, Gelina 255, 270
 foot, Jeffrey 232
 Foraker, Kyla 44, 243
 Forck, Meredith 249
 Ford, David 224
 Foreman, Travis 246
 Forensics 252
 Forsythe, Tim 78, 79
 Foster, Robert 102, 121
 Foster's Aquatic Center 40
 Fotiadis, Jolene 246
 Fowler, Chad 182
 Fowler, Katie 188
 Fowler, Laura 150, 209
 Fox, John 87, 296
 Foy, Jackie 241
 Francis, Ginny 270
 Frank, Gabe 180
 Frazier, Alexander 305
 Frazier, Amanda 246
 Frederick, Erin 245, 296
 Freerksen, Ashley 197

Freeman, Ashlee 244, 259, 296
 Freemyer, Danielle
 52, 232, 234, 296
 French, Mike 214, 215
 Frerking, Kari
 241, 251, 252, 270, 274
 Frerking, Lindsay 257
 Friederich, Laura 197, 317
 Friedrich, Lacy 242, 246, 270
 Froehlich, Aaron 180
 Frost, Rochelle 163
 Frucht, Richard 92, 300
 Fry, Cody 261
 Fuentes, Ben 220, 296
 Fuerth, Leon 60
 Fullbright, Brad 224, 231, 270
 Fuller, Kayla 244
 Fulton, Richard
 60, 98, 102, 300
 Funk, Christina 241
 Funston, Chanda 131, 259, 298



Gabidouline, Anvar 252, 270

Galbraith, Abby
 12, 13, 231, 234
 Gale, Tiffany 224, 235
 Galitz, Melissa 254, 260, 261
 Gallagher, Kyle 215
 Gallaher, John 240, 277, 298
 Gallaher, Robin 240, 298
 Gamblin, Chad 34
 Gamma Chi 18, 219
 Gamma Theta Upsilon 252
 Garcia, Andrea 244
 Gardner, Amanda 228, 232, 261
 Gardner, Travis 192
 Garg, Aadhar 228, 305
 Garland, Logan 224
 Garner, Crystal 270
 Garner, Kyle 192
 Garrett, Derek 180
 Garrett, Julie 244
 Garrett, Nicole 270
 Garten, Scott 295
 Garver, Robbie 242
 Gaskil, Karissa 251
 Gehit, Keejet 241
 Geier, Lindsay 255, 257, 270
 Geiss, Stephanie 244, 273
 Geo Club 252
 Gephardt, Dick 90, 234
 Gerdzhikov, Pavel 71
 Germer, Anitra 248, 261
 Gerriets, Jake 241
 Gettler, Sarah 273
 Gevlach, Terri 244
 Ghai, Tarun 228
 Gianchino, Molly 241
 Gibbs, Destri 242
 Gibson, Becky 255
 Gibson, Piper 273
 Gibson, Rebecca 273
 Gilbert, Steve 295
 Gildenhaus, Luke 242
 Gilgower, Samara 25
 Gill, Amber 228, 282
 Gillespie, Derek 235, 242
 Gillespie, Marcus 285
 Gillette, Holli 187
 Gilmore, Van 215, 273
 Girdner, Joe 220
 Girdner, Joseph 273
 Givens, Joel 180
 Gladman, Brian 235
 Gladstone, Claudia 249, 255
 Glasnapp, Nick 180
 Glenn, Erica 305
 Glover, Tony 29, 174, 175, 180
 Goad, Craig 298
 Godenko, Mikhail 52
 Goesser, Katie 228
 Goldstein, Nicole 244, 259
 Gollady, Shedrick 242
 Gomel, David
 147, 236, 246, 247, 273
 Gonzalez, Ada 226, 227
 Gonzalez, Alex 86
 Gould, Michelle 188
 Goos, Gerrad 180
 Gordon, Anne 231, 246, 249
 Gorham, Jack 305
 Gorrell, Alea 252
 Gosnell, Tracie 273
 Goss, John 180
 Goudge, Beth 300
 Goudge, Eric 180
 Goymerac, Michael 164
 Grabowski, Christine 246, 273
 Graf, Peter 305
 Graf, Steffi 210
 Grammatico, Damien 245
 Granger, Amanda 18
 Grant, Ashley 140
 Gray, Jaquie 244
 Gray, Jessie 273
 Gray, Joshua 220, 242
 Gray's Truck Stop 36
 Greater Maryville Chamber of
 Commerce 38
 Greek Week 44
 Green, Jack 236, 246
 Green, Rob 29
 Greenhagen, Nicholas 245
 Grefe, Holly 209, 236
 Gregory, Jason 236, 246, 273
 Gregory, Megan 33
 Grell, Clark 260, 273
 Gries, Jennifer 255, 273
 Griffin, David 222, 242
 Griffin, Rebecca 220, 231
 Griffin, Scott 26, 27
 Griswold, Leslie 21, 232
 Grohman, Krystal 228
 Gross, Pat 300
 Grosse, Ashley 183, 201
 Grosshans, Travis 180
 Grotjan, Greg 236
 Groves, Kara 236
 Grummert, Alysia 140, 220
 Guest, Kelsee 243
 Guettermann, Luke 273
 Guianchino, Molly 252
 Gulizia, Anthony 246, 252, 324
 Gullick, Marlene 235, 241
 Gundlach, Jill 273
 Gurley, Kris 242
 Gustafson, John 180
 Gutelius, Erica 244
 Gutschenritter, Beth
 188, 189, 206

Congratulations
 Seniors!



Campus Safety 562-1254

Congratulations
 Class of 2004

Northwest Missouri State University
 Counseling Center

Wells Hall 120

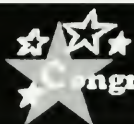
(660) 562-1220

H

- Haberyan, April 295
Habitat for Humanity 34, 230
Hablutzel, Bryan 39
Haddock, Gregory 131, 285, 300
Hagan, Jeffrey 48, 49
Haile, Brian 295
Hake, Matt 234
Halauats, Amber 305
Haley, Jeffrey 273
Hall, Amanda 69
Hall, Bradley 224
Hamblin, David 180
Hamblin, Harry 25
Hamilton, Barbara 108
Hamilton, John 273
Hamilton, Katie 108
Hamilton, Mark 108
Hamilton, Megan 108, 182, 183
Hamilton, Natalie 108
Hamilton, Trevor 108
Hampton, Alexandra 244
Hampton, Allie 228
Hampton, Andy 180
Hance, Ryan 220
Handa, Sachie 222, 273
Handley, Dylan 236
Handlos, Jacqueline 216, 231
Hane, Gerrit 180
Hanks, Rita 126
Hansel, Ryan 19
Hansen, Alyssa 236
Hansen, Andrea 81
Hansen, Mary 241, 243
Hanson, Katie 44, 220
Haraguchi, Masafumi 40, 222
Harashe, Elizabeth 248
Harbin, Eric 23
Hard, Carolyn 298
Hardee, Tom 298
Harden, Leon III 270
Hardy, Bart 180
Hargreaves, Alan 16, 17, 31
Harlan, Jake 273
Harness, Ben 180
Harness, Taylor 231, 273
Harper, Katie 228
Harper, Monica 226
Harr, Teri 36, 37
Harrelson, Andrea
249, 253, 259, 273
Harrington, Brandi 81
Harris, Joe 42
Harris, Michelle 273
Harris, Torri 273
Harris-Lewis, Angel 106, 123
Harrison, Greg 204
Harrison, Patricia 261
Hart, Alexis 244
Hart, Crystal 261
Hart, Elizabeth 235
Hart, Wis 235
Hartle, Angela 224, 273
Hartley, Jessica 235
Haslag, April 231, 246, 261
Hastings, Stephanie 177
Hatterman, Erica 197, 273
Hayes, Trevor 54, 232, 260, 261
Hays, Amanda 12, 244
Hays, Matt 261
Head, Amanda 222
Headley, Patricia 300
Healy, Chris 180, 259
Healy, Jen 243
Heartland View Online 254
Heaton, Loyd 201
Heasel, Barbara 298
Heck, Brandon 235
Hedda Gabler 51, 69
Hedrick, Sierra 273
Heekmann, Erica 236
Heeler, Linda 153
Heeler, Phil 220, 298
Heerlein, Alexandra
232, 234, 261
Heerman, Erica 182
Heil, John 182, 183
Heimen, Justin 168, 230, 231
Heinle, Del Rae 257
Heintz, Christina 295
Heintz, Kerre 298
Heitman, Eddie 38
Hejna, Alexis 261
Hellberg, Amelia 244
Hellbusch, Nicholas 252
Heller, Sarah 255, 273
Helmink, Kristin 241
44, 235, 250, 259
Helms, Gabriel 180, 200, 201,
203
Heman, Clark 236
Henderson, Leah 244
Hendrix, Robert 245
Henke, Lacie 273
Henning, Lindsey 236
Henson, Cadence 296
Heppermann, Tricia 244, 273
Herbek, Ethan 273
Herbert, Virginia 220, 245
Hermreck, Kimberly 241, 296
Hernandez, Adrianna 213
Hernandez, Irving 227
Herner, Raven 210, 213
Herrera, Mark 305
Herrin, Ruth 296
Herring, Angela 296
Herring, Mitch 180
Hersh, Ryan 220
Hertlein, Rachel 296
Hess, Shawn 221, 222
Hesse, Brian 300
Hester, Stacey 23
Heston, Mackenzie 187, 206
Hetzler, Mark 289
Heuer, Megan
246, 260, 261, 296
Hey, Christopher 275
Hiatt, Julie 243
Hiatt, Shelly 295
Hickey, James 300
Hickman, Ashley 242, 275
Higgins, Kodi 275
Hilbert, Sharon 295
Hill, Alicia 232, 275
Hill, Ashley 241
Hill, Derek 215
Hill, Kim 241
Hill, Perry 86
Hill, Scott 243
Hilsabeck, Jessica 232, 257
Hilton, Chad 275
Himes, Rachael 296
Hinrichs, Michael 236
Hirst, Lisa 296
Hiser, Mitch 224, 275
Hispanic American Leadership
Organization 227
Hitsman, Joel 215
Hitz, Jodie 12, 232, 231, 234
Hoakison, Valerie 224, 249, 296
Hobbs, Michael 298



On the drums Josh Nelson plays with his band, Bent Left. Fused out of Killa, the band rolled into Marysville to perform at Thursday Night at the Union's Punk Night. *photo by Mike Eye*



Congratulations Class of 2004
We're Proud of you!

usbank
Five Star Service Guaranteed

1621 South Main
Maryville
(660) 562-2000

120 South Main
Maryville
(660) 582-7159

Congratulations Graduates!
The Bearcat Bookstore ...

*your School Spirit Headquarters
for more than just books!*

NORTHWEST 
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
BOOKSTORE



**Carter's
Pharmacy**

Come See Us At Our New Location!

1528 South Main • Maryville, Mo
562-2763

Rick Carter, R. Ph.

Prescription Service For Your Health Care Needs

A Proud Bearcat Supporter!

WAL★MART
ALWAYS THE LOW PRICE.

Always

1605 South Main • Maryville, Missouri

Your Maryville

HyVee
EMPLOYEE OWNED

Proud Supporter of the Bearcat!

1217 South Main

Open 2-11 Hours



Citizens Bank & Trust

*We're proud of
our long-standing affiliation with
The Northwest Family
and wish all of you the very best!*

101 North Main Street • P.O. Box 500 • Maryville, MO 64468
(660) 582-7454 • email@cbandcbl.com



**We do
chicken
right!**


**The
Joy of Cola™**

PepsiAmericas

St. Joseph, MO

Hobergesonefled, Brian 242
 Hoerath, Lindsay 241
 Hoeffcker, Jessica 255, 275
 Hoeffert, Heidi 132
 Hoffman, Eric 246
 Hoffman, Jessica 305
 Hofpar, Cameo 296
 Hogan, Eric 246
 Hoge, Lucas 220
 Hagedorn, Susan 261
 Hogue, Brooke 197
 Hohensee, Amber 228
 Holden, Bob 234, 330
 Holdenried, Joe 242
 Holder, Christopher 245, 252, 275
 Holley, Tim 226
 Hollingsworth, Amanda 40
 Hollingsworth, Lynda 40, 295

Holliway, Teri 261
 Holman, Sauda 220, 296
 Holmes, Elizabeth 23, 27, 222
 Holt, Chris 208
 Holthus, Phillip 264
 Holtzclaw, Joe 180
 Homan, Kim 182, 184, 201
 Honey, Josh 180
 Honeywell, Brandi 201
 Hookslide 21
 Hoover, Josh 56, 57, 314
 Hopkins, Rebekah 224
 Horner, Channing 248
 Horner, Louise 248
 Horvat, Alen 213
 Hosier, Dana 275
 Hosier, Nicole 257
 Hoskey, Karen 300
 Hoskins, Carlie 188

Hotmer, Brittany 305
 Hotmer, Tisha 251, 275
 Hotovy, Stacy 241
 Houseman, Kirk 180
 Howard, Grant 220, 231, 261
 Howell, Curtis 227
 Howell, John 275
 Howk, Whitney 226
 Howles, Jason 296
 Howren, Gary 261
 Hoyt, Ashley 177
 Hoyt, Eric 180
 HPERD Club 254
 Hubbard, Dean
 20, 24, 98, 100, 101,
 105, 106, 122, 136
 Hubbard, Melody 232, 256
 Huckle, Kelly 243, 296
 Hudson Hall Council 228

Huff, Lora 296
 Huffman, Tracy 296
 Hufford, Caleb 220
 Hull, Wayne 245
 Hull, Zackary 209, 242
 Hung, Ming-Chih 300
 Hungate, Mark 236
 Hunken, Lindsey 296
 Hunnicutt, Jamaal 191
 Hunt, Adam 245
 Hunt, Adriane 255, 275
 Hunt, Cassandra 305
 Hunt, David 275
 Hunt, Eric 245
 Hunter, Aaron 245
 Hunter, Josh 180
 Hunziger, Joanne 275
 Hurd, Stephanie 226
 Hurst, Lydia 128



Freshman Josh Hoover entertains students with his comedy act. "I got into comedy by the way I was fascinated by the way comedians can make people laugh, and I think that is the coolest thing in the world," Hoover said. *(photo by Theresa Chin)*

Hurt, Kristie 236, 275
 Husband, Amanda 226
 Hussein, Saddam 16, 92
 Hutchins, Jonathan 275
 Hutson, Andrew 180
 Hy-Vee 160

Irsik, Maudie 182, 298
 Irwin, Maegan 232, 275
 Isley, Eric 182, 183, 201, 203
 Isom, Joshua 220, 235
 Ives, Renee 298

James, Adrian 232
 James, Ashlee 146
 James, Ashley 236
 James, Cassandra 258
 James, Victor 192
 James, Daniel 201
 Janes, Theresa 224
 Jaster, Levi 220
 Jeck, Laura 261
 Jeffries, Caleb 220
 Jelavich, Michael 257, 298
 Jenison, Devon 275
 Jenkins, Jake 180
 Jenkins, Kathryn 220
 Jensen, Jennifer
 242, 246, 251, 275
 Jensen, Kathryn 224, 275
 Jentsch, Nathan 298
 Jeppesen, Daniel 224, 298
 Jesaitis, Mary 252, 254, 275
 Jesse, Shannon 236, 246, 275
 Jewell, Duane 131
 Jimenez, Tamara 33
 Jochens, Sara 235
 Joe Toker Daze 25
 John, Katy 216
 Johnson, Andres 220
 Johnson, Andy 242
 Johnson, Ashley 276
 Johnson, Carrie
 187, 231, 235, 255, 256,
 257, 276

Jorgensen, Tyler 298
 Joy, James 132, 133
 Jungers, Ryan 236
 Junker, Leslie 187
 Juon, Brandon 245
 Justice, Becky 232

I

J

Ibrahimkhan, Gasim 228,
 275, 230
 Ibrahimkhan, Reda 228, 230
 Ibsen, Henrick 69
 Imamura, Ayuko 222
 Improv a la Mode 51, 55
 Indian Student Association 228
 Ingels, Justin 275
 Ingram, Heather 241
 Interfraternity Council 240
 Internal Solidarity Movement 34
 International Outreach 221
 International Student Organiza-
 tion 228
 Irlmeier, Jess 241

Jacaway, Jessica 115, 298
 Jackson, Amy 188
 Jackson, Andrew 224, 253
 Jackson, Anthony 210, 298
 Jackson, Ashley 244
 Jackson, Byron 192, 194, 195
 Jackson, Haywood 81
 Jackson, Janet 84
 Jackson, Jill 275
 Jackson, Kristin 234
 Jackson, Lacey 182, 201
 Jackson, Michael 85
 Jackson, Slade 31
 Jackson, Zack 39
 Jacobs, Danae 22
 Jacoby, Olivia 226
 Jain, Ritu 228

K

K.I.D.S. 228
 Kahre, Allison 249
 Kaiser, Kyle 180
 Kaler, Ellen 62
 Kamath, Akshay 228
 Kammerer, Leslee 246
 Kang, Song 298
 Kansas City Chiefs 164, 171
 Kansas City Royals 19
 Kansas City Star 113
 Kaplan, Martin 84
 Kappa Kappa Psi 245
 Kappa Omicron Nu 254
 Kappa Sigma 24, 240
 Kapur, Mayank 228
 Karabel, Amy 298
 Karnes, Kera 232
 Karrasch, Brett 242
 Katz, Gordan 204
 Kauffman, Chris 236
 Kauffmann, Kristen 228, 234
 Kavanaugh, Megan 44
 Kawano, Shota 242, 246
 Kearney, Thomas 180
 Kedigh, Derek 213
 Keeton, Renne 232
 Keith, Zachary 153, 213
 Keller, Carla 241, 258, 276
 Kelley, Andrea 252
 Kelley, Lisa 236
 Kelley, Lori 264
 Kellner, Andrea 253, 259
 Kelly, Jamie 298
 Kempf, Ashley 228, 298, 318
 Kendall, Kristen 276
 Kendrick, Jared 220
 Kenealy, Jared 180
 Kenkel, Cindy 251, 259, 295
 Kenkel, Cody 257
 Kenkel, Hailey 153
 Kent, Diedre 257
 Kephart, Amy 276
 Keraus, Kyle 182, 183
 Kern, Kari 226
 Kerry, John 90
 Kersten, Brian 220
 Ketzler, Courtney 226

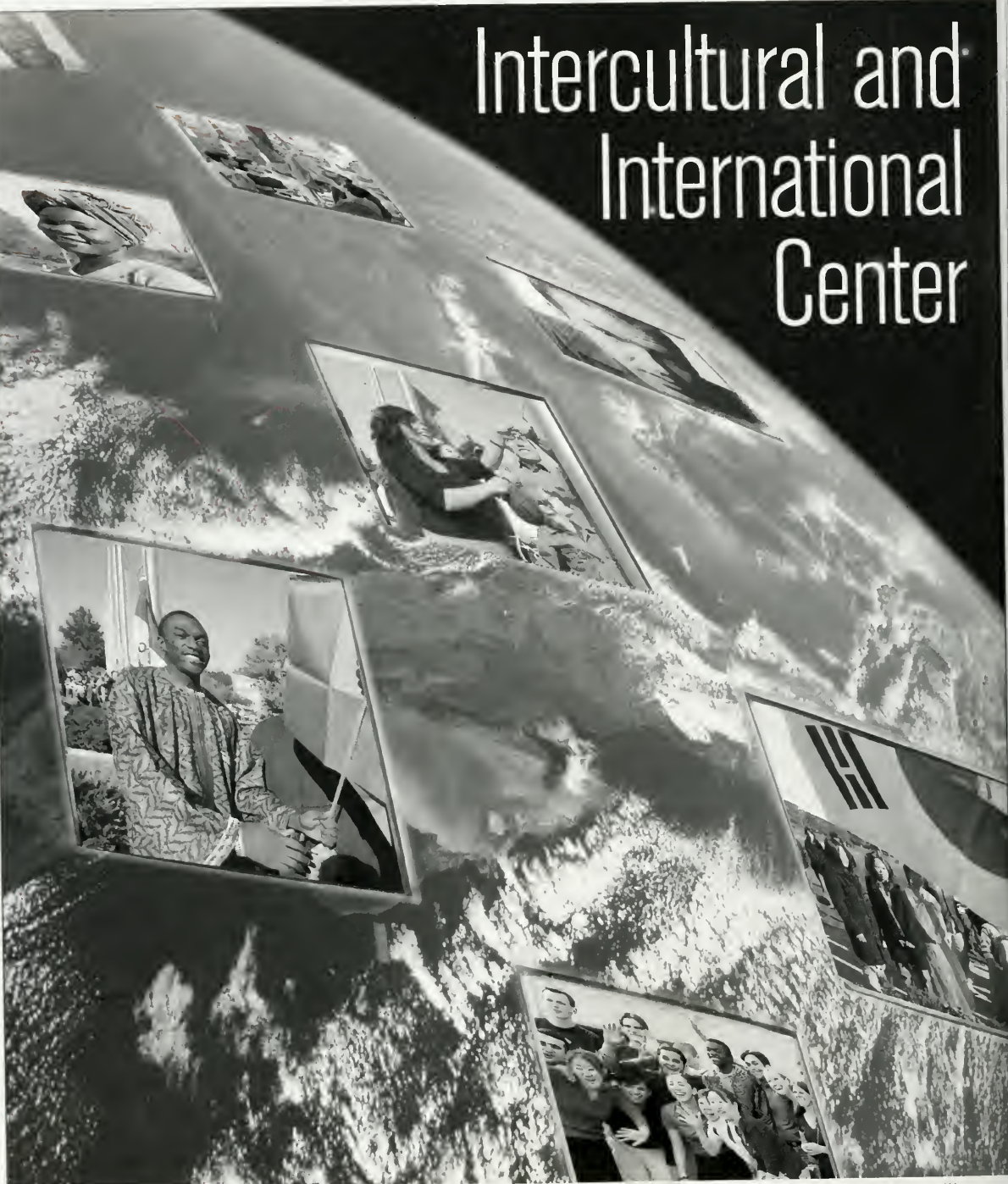
Phi Mu



Congratulations
 Seniors!
 You will be missed!

Johnson, Chase 242
 Johnson, Chris 305
 Johnson, Cody 298
 Johnson, Grace 255, 276
 Johnson, James 14
 Johnson, Jim 126
 Johnson, Matt 215, 300
 Johnson, Patrick 144
 Johnson, Sarah 244
 Johnson, Skakuita 220
 Johnson, Tatiannia 261, 276
 Johnston, Matt 180
 Jones, Brett 215
 Jones, Cale 298
 Jones, Cassie 298
 Jones, Catherine 305
 Jones, Diana 298
 Jones, Edgar 215
 Jones, Marcus 220
 Jones, Patrice 135
 Jones, Paul 298
 Jones, Rego 264
 Jones, Richard 89
 Jones, Sara 187
 Joonas, Kishwar 295
 Jordan, Amanda 228, 298
 Jordan, Pat 203
 Jorgensen, Charlotte 252, 276
 Jorgensen, Jennifer 245

Intercultural and International Center



Providing educational and cultural programming for Northwest and Maryville.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.nwmissouri.edu/iic ■ iic@mail.nwmissouri.edu ■ phone: (660) 562-1367 ■ fax: (660) 562-1546
J.W. Jones Student Union ■ 800 University Drive ■ Maryville, MO 64468

Kharadia, Virabhai 228
 Khm, Soeh Tan 222
 Kibler, Jackie 295
 Kids Korner 237
 Kilpatrick, Stephanie 244, 298
 Kim, Jae Hee 276
 Kim, Jaehee 252
 Kimble, Kelly 232
 Kimbrough, Kerry 243
 Kimbrough, Sage 133, 276
 Kindler, John 307
 King, Christopher 298
 King, Lacie 243, 276
 King, Lori 318
 King, Terry 264, 295
 Kirchhoff, Reid 66, 248
 Kite, Jake 241
 Kitzing, Julia 222, 224, 276
 Kitzing, Timothy 241, 298
 Klammm, Matt 201
 Kleeschulte, Jennifer 248, 276

Kleinlein, Joshua
 224, 231, 240, 241,
 242, 248, 256
 Klingensmith, Cheryl 276
 Kloewer, Elizabeth 232, 234, 298
 Klopfenstein, Kenton 215
 Klute, Paul 128
 Knapp, Julie 245, 276
 Knecht, Courtney 241
 Knierim, Jamie 231, 236, 241,
 250, 251, 259, 276
 Knight, Lindsey 236, 298
 Knilians, Brianne 245
 Knobbe, Katie 231, 243, 298
 Knotts, Eric 241
 Knotts, Erin 236, 276
 Koehn, Ben 222
 Koerten, Anne 241, 243
 Koeteman, Megan
 224, 231, 246, 248, 256, 276
 Koffman, John 241

Koga, Kenichirou 276
 Koger, Leah 224
 Koile, Mikaela 276
 Kolbo, Heather 188
 Kothari, Viraj 228
 Koyama, Hitomi
 222, 228, 246, 261, 276
 Krasnoyarsk National Dance
 Company 52
 Kratels, Tammy 241
 Kraus, Brittanie 226, 244, 250
 Krehbiel, Kacy 305
 Kreifels, Tammy
 242, 246, 251, 257, 276
 Kreizinger, Joe 78
 Kresse, Tiffany 276
 Krobbe, Katie 255
 Kroll, Renae 276
 Krueger, Michael 242
 Kruger, Megan 188
 Kucinich, Dennis 90
 Kuhn, Courtney 299
 Kumar, Sanjiv 213, 228
 Kunte, Abhijit 228
 Kupfer, Krista 300
 Kutzli, Dan 276
 Kwan, King 220, 222, 228, 299
 Kyurkchiev, Ivan 71

Lantis, Megan 246
 LaPlant, Jeff 261
 Larabee, Carmen 276
 Largent, Allyson 220
 Larrea, Juan 248, 276
 Larson, Arley 264
 Lash, Jeannie 82
 Laswell, Katy 228, 232, 258, 276
 Lawless, Danielle 272
 Lawrence, Lisa 138
 Lawson, Julie 244, 246
 Lawson, Melissa 241
 Lawson, Selena 162, 276
 Leach, Lauren 258, 300
 Leap, Brenda 226, 261
 Leaman, Mike 328
 Leatherman, Mindy 224
 Leber, Jessica 299
 Lee, Betsy 182, 183, 200, 201
 Leech, Lauren 227
 Leet, Dick 101
 Leffler, David 162
 Leicht, Rob 305
 Leif, Megan 255, 276
 Lemke, Bryce
 226, 232, 235, 299
 Lemke, Valerie
 224, 251, 256, 276
 Lemmert, Joe 162
 Lencen, Mary 237, 255
 Leonard, Crystal 243
 Leopard, Hayley 244, 252
 Lerette, Bryan 299
 Leshar, Casie 226
 Leshar, Trisha 276
 Lessman, Curt 180
 Leung, Pamela 55, 248, 261, 276
 Leusehke, Leah 257
 Levens, Jeana 228
 Lewinsky, Monica 84
 Lewis, Alison 276
 Lewis, Aaron 35
 Lewis, Jenny 256, 257
 Lidolph, Ryan
 224, 231, 235, 251, 276
 Lieberman, Joseph 90
 Lightfoot, Logan 243
 Lilleston, Mary 276
 Lilly, Beth 224, 242, 256, 276
 Lindahl, Alyssa 299
 Lindsay, Seth 299
 Lindsey, Gena 213
 Lindsey, Terryn 299
 Linduall, Mike 220
 Link, Jenna 241
 Lipira, Sara 211, 213, 279
 Lippincott, Tiffany 176
 Litte, Bruce 298
 Livengood, Kelli 279
 Livengood, Rachel 241, 279
 Lloyd, Sheena 220, 279

L

La Frentz, Courtney 241
 Laber, Evan 299
 Lacy, Gara 200, 201
 Lacy, Justin 180
 Lafon, Heather 220, 235
 Lager, Brad 98
 Lager, Michael 145
 LaJoie, Rebecca 299
 Lakenbrink, Kaylyn 227
 Lambda Pi Eta 254
 Lamberson, Josh
 28, 29, 173, 174,
 175, 178, 180, 250
 Lambert, Jesi 261
 Lambert, Rachel 261
 Lamer, Fred 246, 249
 Lamer, Jacquie 246, 249
 Lamke, Valerie 231
 Lancaster, Chris 276
 Lancaster, Nathan 220, 276
 Lance, Jennifer 276
 Lance, Melissa 246
 Lane, Jessica 259
 Lane, Nathan 111, 235
 Lane, Travis 255, 256
 Lanfranca, Peter 235, 242
 Lanier, Brian 138



Lozing in the Student Union, Laura Friedrich relaxes with her daily USA Today sports section. Friedrich said the union allows her to meet new people and experience the daily college experience. photo by Mike Pyle

Lloyd-Webber, Andrew 72
 Lo, Chi Lim 295
 Lober, Leslie 222
 Lock, Drew 246
 Lockhart, Wynette 279
 Lockwood, Bill 98
 Lode, Allen 220, 299
 Loe, Darin 214, 215
 Loemker, Stacey 299
 Loeschner, Keith 220, 258
 Loewen, Greg 295
 Logan, Janelle 241
 Logston, Jordan 257
 Logston, Shawn 241
 Lomas, Brian 164
 Lompe, Heather 11, 226
 Long, Adam 180
 Long, Erin 226, 227, 299
 Long, Mike 241
 Long, Rachel 299
 Long, Terry 254
 Lopez, Issac 201, 242
 Lopez, Marconi 245
 Lovelace, Michael 222
 Lovelace, Terry 298
 Low, Chee-Keong 279
 Lowrey, Jonathan 242, 257
 Lowrey, Lindsey 279
 Ludwig, Steve 246
 Luna, Rhonda 226
 Lundergan, Erin 241
 Lundry, Matthew 248, 279
 Lunzmann, Kristi 299
 Lureman, Tandace 5
 Lutz, Nicole 246
 Lutzen, Nikki 299
 Lybarger, Adam 242
 Lyle, Ashley 242
 Lynde, Will 195, 204
 Lynn, Justin 300
 Lyon, Melanie 245, 249
 Lyons, Melissa 241

M

MacDonald, Shelly 216
 Mack, Kyle 80
 Mackey, Toni 264
 Madison, Alisha 294
 Madonna 23
 Maeda, Sota 222
 Magel, Jennifer 236
 Magnifico, Christina 121
 Maimani, Rayan 228, 230
 Mains, Jennifer 243
 Malanowski, Chris 242
 Malcolm Baldrige National
 Quality Award 105
 Malloy, Katie 279
 Malm, Cheryl 295
 Malm, Dennis 295
 Malter, Stephanie 244
 Mandl, T.J. 178, 179, 180
 Mankiller, Wilma 60, 61
 Manos, Leah 300
 Marard, Humphrey 232
 Mararo, Humphrey 228, 279
 Marchert, Bobby 243
 Marcolino, Monica
 224, 226, 227, 228, 256, 279
 Mark, Shannon 244
 Maron, Amanda 236
 Marquart, Laz 182, 201
 Marquez, Miguel 89
 Marriott, Nicole 300
 Marsh, Amanda 279
 Marsh, Richie 213
 Marshall, Cynthia 300
 Marston, Becky 188, 189
 Marta, Janet 295
 Martelle, Lainey 232, 300
 Marticke, Pam
 224, 246, 255, 256
 Marticke, Pamela 279
 Martin, Dana 224
 Martin, Jamie 180
 Martin, Karri 235
 Martin, Tyler 173, 180, 201
 Martine, Krista 232, 244, 258
 Martinez, Francisco 82, 227, 248,
 251
 Maryville Children's Center 44
 Maryville City Council 36
 Masek, Melissa 256, 279
 Mask, Gerald 215
 Mason, Stacey 279
 Mason, Tyler 247
 Matchbox 20 22
 Mather, Mark 236
 Mathews, Joel 180
 Mathews, Josh 180
 Mathews, Megan 27
 Matovsek, Jeremiah 242
 Matson, Mary 261
 Matthew Shepard Memorial Walk
 227
 Matthews, Megan 241
 Matthews, Noelle 279
 Mattock, Mike 232
 May, Audrey 300
 May, Kaleb 215, 279
 Mayer, Nancy 259, 298
 Mayle, Will 215
 Maynard, Dennis 62
 Maynard, Margaret 62
 Mays, Jeff 204
 McAdams, Stephanie 300
 McAsey, Shane 279
 McCall, Carolyn 298

McCarthy, Krystle 244
 McCaw, Jennifer 279
 McClain, Jonathan 209
 McClain, Megan 241
 McClellan, Scott 91
 McCluskey, Garrett 242
 McCollum, Robyn 279
 McConell, Megan 54
 McConnell, Meggie 244
 McCoy, Angelique 216, 279
 McCoy, Cameron 71, 246
 McCoy, Kyle 236
 McCoy, Stephanie 252, 254
 McCrary, Ollie 279
 McCrea, Clint 236
 McCredy, Colin 279
 McCullough, Erin 244
 McDaniel, Mandy 241
 McDermott, Jamie 243
 McDonald, Gary 220, 298
 McDonald, Kenton 88
 McDonald, Merry 220, 292
 McDonald, Rachael 222
 McDonald, Merry 298
 McGinnis, Timothy 231, 300
 McGrath, Justin 236
 McGrow, Tianna 241
 McIntosh, Clif 201, 203
 McIntyre, Andrew 180
 McKee, Dia 183, 201
 McKee, Nancy 80
 McKeon, Jack 86
 McKeown, Ryan 300
 McKim, Daniel 200,
 201, 202, 203
 McKinley, Danielle 196
 McLain, John 279
 McLain, Katy 10
 McLain, Melanie 224, 228, 300
 McLain, Sarah 279
 McLaughlin, David 300
 McLaughlin, Jamie 236
 McLaughlin, Pat 232, 250
 McLellan, Elizabeth 226, 246



Dancing in the fourth annual Dance and Drag Show, Precious Marynolds entertains Assistant Professor Lauren Leach, Amy Carr and Amanda Byler. The show raised money for cancer. photo by Mike Pre



HOLTMAN MASONRY, INC.

*Proud Member of the NWMS Construction Team
Rickenbrode Stadium • Student Union • Conference Center*

Randy Holman

26824 Ivory Road
Mayville, MO 64468

660/562-3260
FAX: 660/562-3260



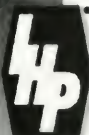
Call us to receive your
Catalog or Quote.

(800) 733-5025
FAX (800) 423-1512

Stuppy Greenhouse Manufacturing, Inc.
1212 Clay, PO Box 12456
North Kansas City MO 64116

www.stuppy.com

greenhouse@stuppy.com

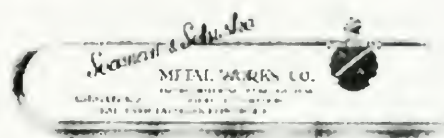


Compliments of

IHP INDUSTRIAL INC.

mechanical contractors

1701 C. 8th Street P.O. Box 578 St. Joseph, MO 64502
(816) 954-1581 • FAX (816) 232-4473



RICK GILMORE
CEO

P.O. Box 448
Forti & McNeill Ave.
St. Joseph, MO 64502

816 / 232-3337
Fax / 232-2376

*Congratulations to the
Students and Graduates of
Northwest Missouri State University.*



ELLISON-AUXIER ARCHITECTS INC.

GARY E. ELLISON

914 FRANCIS ST. JOSEPH MO 64501 (816) 233-8003 FAX 233-7793



THE FAGAN COMPANY

WILLIAM J. ILER
Vice President
Service Operations

913-621-4444 • FAX: 621-1735

3125 BRINKHOFF RD. • P.O. BOX 15238 • KANSAS CITY, MO 66115

Woodruff Arnold Do-it center.

1315 South Main • Maryville, MO 64468
(660) 562-2633

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Since 1945

Lumber
Hardware
Paint
Roofing
Plumbing
Electrical



Domino's Pizza

*Proud supporter of
NWMSU since 1985*

**Lunch, Dinner or a
Late Night Snack**

Open 10am-2am Sun-Thurs
10am-3am Fri-Sat



562-2800

- McLellan, Kate 226
 McMillen, Ben 215
 McMurphey, Megan 244
 McMurtry, Mike 240
 McNair, Jennifer 232
 McNeil, Janelle 228, 300
 McQueen, Melissa 250, 281
 Mead, Katie 244
 Meade, Melinda 281
 Medina, Anthony 245
 Meggers, Emily
 234, 246, 259, 300
 Mehrhoff, Jason 245
 Meighen, Stefanie 255
 Meile, Casey 180
 Meinke, Nicole 249
 Meister, Shannon
 255, 257, 261, 281
 Melton, Lyndsay 241
 Mendez, Maria 18, 241
 Mendonca, Joao 299
 MenDunhall, Arron 39
 Menefee, Nicole 281
 Mera-Martinez, Samia 300
 Merrick, Ashley 300
 Merrigan, Joe 25
 Merrill, Jean 135
 Merritt, Joel 76
 Merz, Laura 31
 Messick, Andrea 232, 261
 Meyer, Amy
 44, 222, 224, 241, 256, 281
 Meyer, Austin 192
 Meyer, Jeremy 24, 25
 Meyer, Katrina 252, 300
 Meyer, Lane 224, 281
 Meyer, Louann 281
 Meyer, Sarah 222, 241
 Meyerkorth, Jared 180
 Michael, Carly 224
 Michel-Whitley, Azalea 227
 Mickelson, Eric 281
 Middle Eastern Student Association 230
 Middleton, Gabe 180
 Middleton, Jill 281
 Mikulich, Amber 258
 Mile 29 34
 Mile of Money 44
 Millang, Elizabeth 256
 Millar, David 87
 Miller, Adam 201, 300
 Miller, Amanda 236, 281
 Miller, April 197
 Miller, Brant 249
 Miller, Chris 288
 Miller, Christine 22, 220, 300
 Miller, Holly 281
 Miller, Jackie 222
 Miller, Kevin 236
 Miller, Krysten 252, 281
 Miller, Lindsey 236
 Miller, Molly
 231, 241, 243, 261, 281
 Miller, Ryan 281
 Minks, Jamie 257
 Minor, Christina
 242, 249, 255, 281
 Minssen, Nick 246
 Missouri Academy Astronomy Club 33
 Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services 36
 Mitchell, Hanna 243
 Mittenzwey, Cristina 227
 Miyazaki, Sanae 281
 Moe, Carrie 300
 Moeller, Britney 300
 Moncivais, Matthew 235, 242, 248, 260
 Montcuc, Jill 298
 Montesano, Jessica 201
 Moody, Merideth 252, 300
 Moore, Megan 224, 257, 300
 Moore, Roneika 281
 Moore, Sean 300
 Morgan, Kathlyn 255
 Morley, Ryan 192
 Morris, Heidi 222
 Morris, Mike 69, 138
 Morris, Sha'Ron 281
 Morrison, Cole 201
 Morrison, Steve 180
 Morrow, Eric 261
 Mortar Board 230
 Mosby, Katie 224, 235
 Moser, Mary 241, 281
 Mosley, Carol 90
 Mosley, Joi 232, 281
 Moss, Natasha 326
 Muhs, Marcus 182, 201
 Muldoon, Erin 281
 Mullen, Bethany 281
 Mullenix, Abby 228
 Mullins, Nikki 246, 281
 Mullins, Steven 242
 Mulwanda, Njavwa 148, 211, 213, 252
 Murphey, Bethany 252, 300
 Murphy, Becca 226
 Murphy, Joshua 281
 Murr, Emily 245
 Murr, Virginia 220
 Murtha, Christine 300
 Mutz, Angela 249, 300
 Myers, Trevor 242



**Congratulations to
 our departing
 Seniors**

Stephanie Noble
 Lindsay Washam
 Jen Poulsen
 Elizabeth Varnon
 Molly Miller
 Keely Burns
 Jill Awtry
 Lacie King

Megan Thole
 Jenny Zebley
 Amy Connelly
 Anne Koerten
 Jamie Albright
 Cathy Fleming
 Jenny Brunker
 Kyla Foraker


 SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY
 ΣΚ

N

Nabors, Anna
242, 249, 255, 281
Nader, Ralph 90
Naem, Mohammed Zaman 228
Nagatomo, Mai 300
Nakamura, Nobutaka 222
Nakano, Naoto 220
Nally, Ashley 201
Nang, Seoh Tan 222
Nanninga, Mike 180
National Coming Out Week 227
National Residence Hall Honorary 230
Neblock, Miranda 283
Neckermann, Grant 36
Neibling, Stacy 246, 283
Neil, Rachel 257, 300
Neimeyer, Lindsay 241, 257
Nelson, Adam 235, 254
Nelson, Ashley 8, 9, 242
Nelson, David 253, 283
Nelson, Josh 312
Nelson, Letrisha 257

Nemyer, Sabrina 283
Netolicky, Jeff 180
Neustadter, Daniel 283
Neustadter, Roger 295
Nevels, Wendi 244
Neville, Aussia 241
New, Stephanie 37
Newland, Will 215
Newman, Burton 83
Newman Center 230
Newton, Chris 236
Nichols, Audrey 283
Nichols, Elaine 295
Nichols, Kelsey 224, 300
Nichols, Lisa 242
Nicholson, Chad 328
Nickell, LaBebe 250
Nickerson, Jason 224, 283
Nickerson, Sarah 224
Nickerson, Sondra 283
Nidiver, Melissa 244
Nielsen, Jessie 85
Nielson, Ben 260
Niemeyer, Lindsay 241, 257
Niitsu, Atsuko 220
Nimmo, Melissa 216, 217
Nitzsche, Grant 242
Nixon, Kathleen 231, 300
Noble, Stephanie 243

Noir Reality 54
Nolan, Kristin 283
Nonaka, Rieko 222, 228
Norgart, Kortni 283
Northup, Russ 295
Northway, Tyler 180
Northwest Dance Company
22, 52
Northwest Family Center 227
Northwest Foundation 121
Nothhouse, Gretchyn 226, 227
Novak, Bobbi Jo 74
Novelli, Dan 289, 228, 300
Nowosielski, Dan 60, 235
Nunnikhoven, Nathan 300
Nutting, Adam 162, 300

O

Oak Park High School 54, 78
Obahor, Ufuonia 111
Obert, Caleb 180
O'Brien, Megan 283
O'Brien, Pat 84
Odegard, Kim 244
Ogusu, Rie 222
Ohmer, Stephen 83

Okey, Rory 188, 189
Oldfield, Eric 222, 283
Oldridge, Tarasa 232, 234
Olive, John 78
Oliver, Alex 228, 245
Olms, Kristina 244, 261, 300
Olsen, Colleen 247
Oludaja, Bayo
228, 230, 248, 255, 256
Omi, Shigeru 93
Omicron Delta Kappa 256
Omon, Xavier 180
Opera Verdi Europa Rigoletto
71
Opie, Shaundra 283
Order of Omega 240
Organizational Communication
Student Association 256
Orme, Darin 236
Orrell, Nicole 26, 27, 241
Orscheln, Jordan 223, 235
Ortiz, Michael 66
Osborn, Rachel 226, 300
Oser, Tara 300
Otte, Adam 20, 180, 241, 242
Otte, John 177
Otte, Katy 241
Otte, Paul 180
Otte, Sarah 222

**Don't
wait until
it's
too late!**

Contact the
Office of **Career Services**
for more information.

Administration Building Room 130 (660) 562-1250
www.nwmissouri.edu/careerserv career@mail.nwmissouri.edu



Overturf, Jennifer 228
 Owen, Chris 242
 Owens, Katie 253
 Owings, Clifford 240, 242, 283

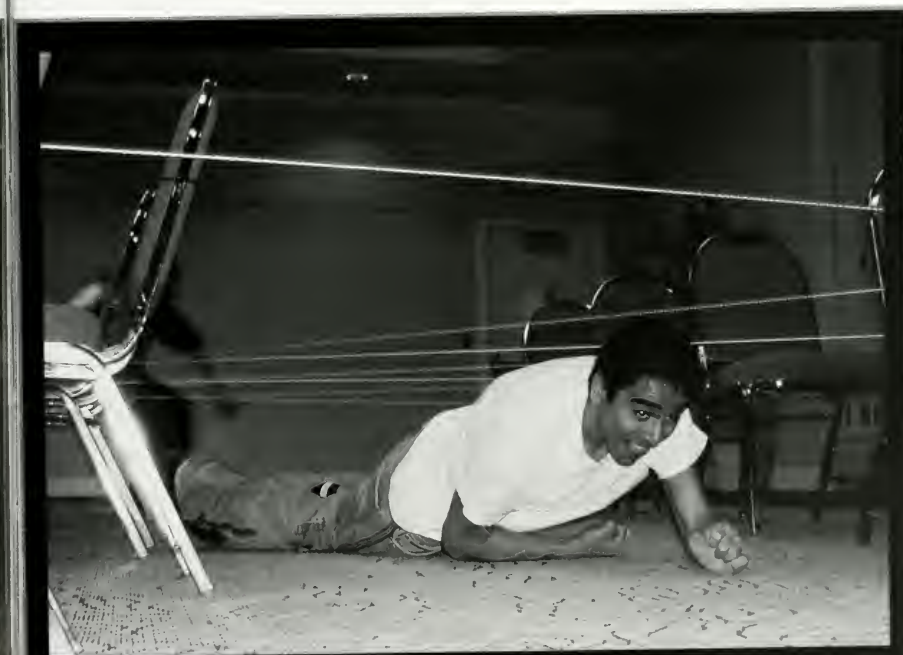
P

Paalhar, Lesley 258
 Packard, Heidi 235, 300
 Padden, Michael 78, 139
 Padgett, Denise 264
 Padgett, Dennis 147
 Paetznick, Corey 29, 181, 206
 Palmer, Clarissa 244
 Palmer, Jackie 243
 Pal-kill, Keegan 226
 Panera, Lander 213, 283
 Pangburn, Robert 248, 283
 Pankau, Brent 300
 Paniccia, Pete 201
 Park, Junghoon 224, 300
 Park, Timothy 241
 Parkdale Nursing Home 223
 Parker, Joe 236
 Parker, Kelvin 192, 195

Parkhurst, Ali 242
 Parkin, Tom 24
 Parman, Grant 246, 283
 Parmenter, Andrew 283
 Parnell, Erin 182
 Parra, Mark 242, 252
 Parrish, Kristen 231
 Partridge, Ronald 283
 Pass, Cathy 256
 Pate, Cory 119
 Patee-Merrill, Danielle 244, 249, 283
 Patton, Stacey 300
 Pattor, Jamie 264
 Pauley, Ryan 246
 Paus, Cathy 222, 231, 235, 255, 257, 283
 Payne, Carrie 300
 Payne, Kimberly 283
 Peacock, Bert 226, 227
 Pearl, Laura 259
 Peay, Austin 210
 Peeper, James 242, 283
 Peer Education 232
 Peirpoint, Kent 25
 Pelham, Christopher 259, 300
 Pendrak, Jan 210, 211, 213
 Perkin, William 264
 Perkins, Emily 188

Perkins, Tyrone 220
 Perna, Kacie 300
 Perrin Hall Council 232
 Pester, Crystal 255
 Pestock, Tom 180
 Peter, Israel 228
 Petersen, Brett 192
 Peterson, Alan 121
 Peterson, Andy 192
 Peterson, Dawn 261, 300
 Peterson, Katie 249, 255, 283
 Peterson, Kelly 236, 259
 Peterson, Laura 232
 Peterson, Megan 250
 Peterson, Nicholas 283
 Pfaltzgraff, Sarah 231, 235, 241, 255, 284
 Phares, Aaron 224
 Phelps, Amy 187
 Phi Delta Theta 44
 Phi Mu 26, 44, 240
 Phi Mu Alpha 5, 24
 Phi Sigma Kappa 24, 26, 242, 243
 Philip, Janea 260
 Phillips Hall Council 232
 Phillips, Jamison 182, 201
 Phillips, Meredith 300
 Philpot, Neal 173, 175

Pi Omega Pi 256
 Pierce, Kyle 236, 284
 Pierpoint, Kent 284
 Pinder, Jason 224
 Pinder, Rachel 300
 Pinney, Lindsay 241
 Pinney, Rachel 250, 257, 284
 Piper, Jennifer 301
 Pittman, Anthony 220
 Pitts, Brandy 235, 301
 Pitts, Kevin 224, 256
 Platt, John 235, 301
 Plattner, Matt 284
 Plettner, Jennifer 284
 Poehlman, Kara 182, 201
 Pöhren, Matt 182, 184, 201
 Poindexter, Cindy 133, 286
 Pointer, Jillian 264
 Poke, Kenton 220
 Polaski, Shannon 254, 301
 Pollard, Carla 48, 49
 Polley, Emilie 245
 Pollock, Jamie 241
 Pope, John 300
 Pope, Lee 301
 Poptanyncz, Ashley 197, 201
 Porterfield, Kent 14
 Posey, Theresa 241
 Posten, Angela 232, 234, 257, 301
 Potee, Kristi 188
 Potts, Kristen 284
 Powers, Jacqueline 226, 227, 261, 301
 Powley, Sheena 228
 Prakash, Govana 228
 Prange, Clint 282
 Pratt, Brandon 180
 Pratt, Nickara 220, 231, 284
 Pre-Law Society 256
 Pre-Med Professional Club 256
 Prescott, Megan 236, 237, 250, 284
 Price, Brandi 236
 Pride, Ashley 216
 Priest, Amanda 301
 Primegin, Alexander 63
 Principe, Joe 193
 Pritchard, Suzanne 244, 301
 Pritchett, Lizzie 36
 Provaznik, Scott 180
 Psi Chi 258
 Psychology/Sociology Society 258
 Public Relations Student Society of America 256
 Punzo, Susan 216
 Purtle, Stephanie 144, 145, 252
 Pusateri, Joni 188, 284



Crawling under strings, freshmen Steven Lucero competes for the fastest time in completing a nine-obstacle course at the Tough Man Contest, sponsored by Thursday Night at the Union, held in the Student Union Ballroom. Events included push-ups, sit-ups and tying square knots. Photos by Diana Hendricks

Putney, Amy 284



Quaas, Heather 284

Quackenbush, Ricky 180

Quinlan, Brian 228

Quisenberry, Douglas Alan III
242



Ragar, Brandy 226, 246

Rahman, Abdul Al-Hagan 230

Rains, Tristan 241

Raising Grey 34

Rakhra, Varundeep 257

Ramirez, Elizabeth
226, 227, 251, 301

Ramsey, Tim 242, 301

Randall, Shannon 241

Rangel, Juan 127

Rapp, Nathan 242

Rausch, Collin 246

Ray, Carly 231

Ray, Harold 301

Ray, Jessica 284

Rayer, Diana 234

Read-Hess, Galen 180

Reborel, Shannon 241

Rector, Andre 173, 174, 180

Rector, Jamaica
28, 29, 172, 179, 180

Redman, Allison 284

Reece, Charlie 246, 301

Reed, Erin 201

Reese, Jay 80

Reichel, Gary 236, 246

Reid, Charity 284

Reil, Mary 249, 255, 284

Reiley, Jill 235, 236

Reinig, Rebecca 177, 301

Reinking, Phil 246

Renshaw, Kari 224, 301

Reschke, Amy 301

Residence Hall Association
12, 26, 234

Reynolds, Erica 220

Reynolds, Susan 232, 258

Rhodes, Kristen 284

Rhodes, Sharon 5

Rice, Aaron 201, 202, 242

Rice, Sarah 222

Richards, Beth 298

Richardson, David 32, 33, 88

Richey, Cierra 243

Richter, Risa 284

Rickerson, Ashley 244

Rickerson, Faline 244

Rickman, Jon 123

Ridder, Brandon 235

Ridens, Stephanie 236, 301

Ridgway, Gary 89

Ridley, Darrin 29, 175, 180, 284

Riley, James 241

Riley, Larry 295

Riley, Nancy 298

Rips, Beth 298

Risetter, Tara 216, 217

Risetter, Tonja 216

Ritzman, Julie 15, 284

Rivera, Nathan 235, 307

Rivera, Scott 232

Rives, Jeff 284

Rives, Matt 215

Rix, Jeff 301

Robb, Matt 26, 27

Robbins, Patrick 69, 138

Roberson, Erin 236, 301

Roberson, James 242

Roberts, Daren 180

Roberts, Erin 226, 301

Roberts, Jamie 21, 176, 243

Robertson, Tiffany 188

Robinett, Brandon

249, 253, 259

Robinett, Gary 261

Robinson, Alicia 226, 284

Robinson, Brian 284

Robinson, Jodi 243

Robinson, Maggie 245, 201

Rockhold, Brandon

220, 259, 301

Rodery, Megan 13

Rodriguez, Maria 226, 227

Rogers, Brandon 180

Rogers, Jason 284

Rogers, Karrington 180

Rogers, Raymond 222

Rohs, Renee 300

Rold, Brandon 192, 259

Rold, Steve 192

Rolf, April 187, 284

Rolf, Austin 242

Rolf, Skylar 250

Rolofson, Tyler 147, 236, 251

Romney, Mitt 91

Root, Amanda 26, 241

Rose, Denise 136, 241

Rosenfelder, Joey 249, 253, 259

Rosewell, Mark 210, 213

Ross, Evan 54, 55, 260

Ross, Justin 260

Ross, Nicholas 245

Ross, Theophil 25, 102

Rosser, Debra 258, 301

Roth, A.J. 201

Rotert, Kevin 241, 252

Roush, Marcy 143

Rowan, Shanna 222, 286

Rowlette, Ann 300

Royer, Diana 12

Royeton, Joshua 241

Rudolph, Angela 5

Ruff, Amy 187

Ruff, Matt 214

Ruff, Mike 215, 286

Ruffin, Jared 180

Rummer, Tricia 255, 256, 286

Runyon, Darla 143, 280

Rupnow, Anthony 22

Rusch, Tricia 222

Rusco, Christine 301

Russell, Doug 148, 295

Russell, Kristina 243

Russell, Michelle 243

Russell-Stamp, Mindy 295

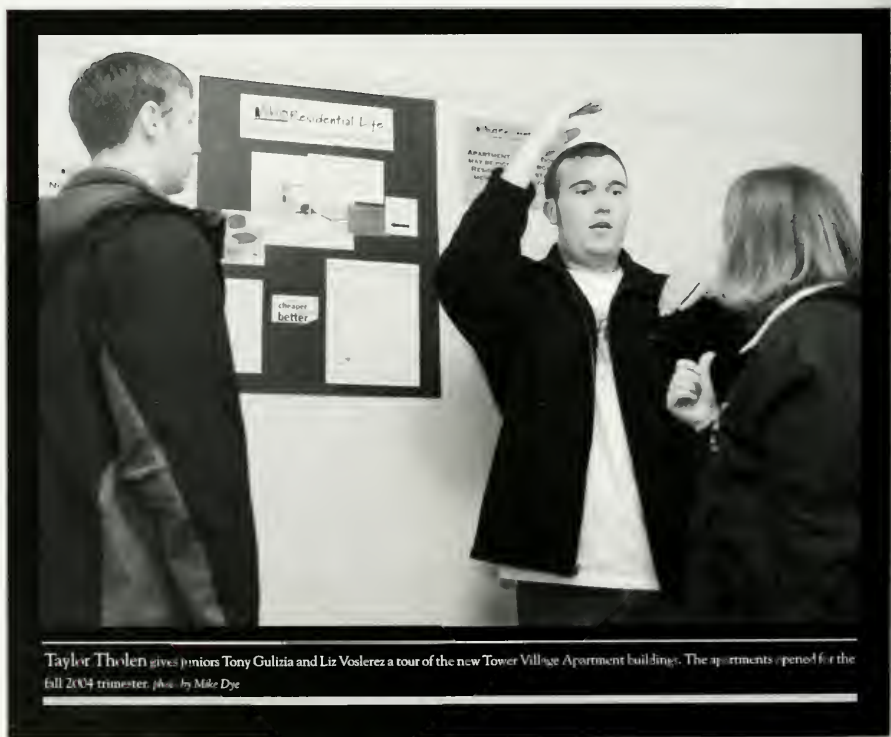
Rust, Brett 214, 215

Rust, Mike 301

Ruvolo, Jessica 220

Ruzicka, Sara 261

Ryan, Brenda 298



Taylor Tholen gives juniors Tony Gultia and Liz Voslez a tour of the new Tower Village Apartment buildings. The apartments opened for the fall 2004 semester. photo by Mike Dye

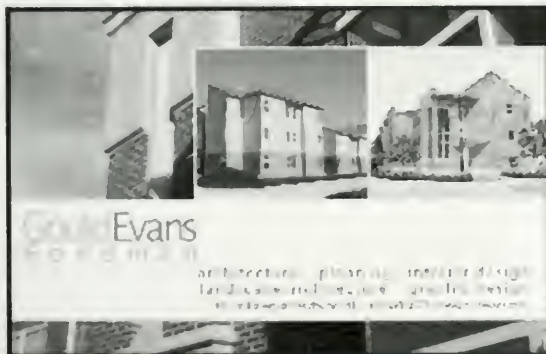
● PARTNERS IN CONSTRUCTION ●

HERZOG CONTRACTING CORP.

*Proud To Support
Northwest Missouri State University!*

*Congratulations To All The
Graduates Of 2004!*

600 South Riverside Road • P.O. Box 1089
St. Joseph, Missouri 64502
(816) 233-9001 • Fax (816) 233-9881



ACTION ELECTRIC CORPORATION

A proud member of the
NWMS Residence Halls Construction Team.

Heating
Cooling
Refrigeration

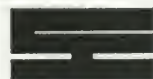


Industrial
Residential
Commercial

24 Hour Emergency Service

(816) 279-0090

923 South 5th • St. Joseph, Missouri 64503



Structural Engineering Associates

Incorporated

*Proud to be a
Part of the Design of
Northwest Missouri
State's Future*

101 West 11th Street, Suite 200
Kansas City, Missouri 64105

(816) 421-1042
FAX: (816) 421-1061

Ryan, Michelle 232
 Ryder, Hannah 301



S. June Smith Center 237
 Sadjik, Jawad 295
 Saito, Erika 244
 Salisbury, Stacey 236, 237
 Sampras, Pete 210
 Samuel, Alisha 188, 200, 201, 203, 228
 Sanchez, Gorka 210, 213
 Sanchez, John 213
 Sandahl, Adam 236
 Sander, Jennifer 258
 Sanders, Dean 220
 Sanderson, Amanda 231, 286
 Sankovich, Sam 231, 232
 Santiago, Linellis 216, 231
 Sappenfield, Megan 244
 Sasser, Brooke 241
 Sasser, Patrick 201
 Sasso, Tony 231
 Satyavelu, Clinton 286
 Sawhney, Ameet 228
 Scarbrough, Brent 220
 Schaaf, Brandon 236
 Schaefer, Lauren 244
 Schaffer, Jeannie 235, 261, 301
 Schaffer, Karen 250
 Schalk, Danielle 232
 Schaper, Erin 222, 236
 Schell, Jennifer 221, 222, 286
 Schelp, Rebecca 259, 300, 301
 Schenkel, Bev 111
 Scherer, Ben 241
 Scherer, Katie 197, 198, 201
 Scheuler, Jessica 243
 Schieber, Ashley 228, 301
 Schinkel, Cole 242
 Schlomer, Dianne 259
 Schmaljohn, Russell 140
 Schmeltz, Nick 242
 Schmidt, Jessica 244, 261, 301
 Schmitt, Ludivine 286
 Schmitz, Diana 264
 Schmutzler, Kurt 250
 Schnakenberg, Sarah 245, 301
 Schnarrenberger, Diana 249, 253, 259, 286, 302
 Schneider, Adam 258, 286
 Schneider, Alan 226, 286
 Schneider, Brad 180
 Schneider, Don 129
 Schoen, Brandon 201

Schoknecht, Minden 243
 Schreiner, Matt 201, 236, 247
 Schroder, Karissa 301
 Schroeder, Justin 236
 Schroeder, Nate 236
 Schroeder, Sandy 257
 Schroer, Matthew 248, 301
 Schubert, Lindsay 188
 Schuchmann, Nicole 232
 Schuckman, Suzanne 244
 Schukei, Robert 220, 286
 Schultes, Jennifer 259
 Schultes, Shelby 286
 Schumacher, Rachel 240, 301
 Schumacher, Stacy 139
 Schumer, Stephanie 248
 Schuster, Amy 250, 257
 Schwartz, Laura 45, 301
 Schwartzman, Roy 142, 143
 Schwarzenegger, Arnold 91
 Scott, Erica 242
 Scott, Tim 222
 Scroggins, Aaron 81
 Scurlock, John 246
 Searle, Stephanie 286
 Searls, Heather 183, 201
 Sedlak, Hali 249
 Seek, Millicent 257
 Seim, Martha 236
 Selgeby, Erin 44
 Sergel, Al 136, 162, 297, 245
 Servatius, Joseph 215
 Sethi, Vishal 228
 Sexton, Elizabeth 34, 220, 234, 235
 Sexton, Stephanie 286
 Shafar, Sean 180
 Shaffer, Curtis 220, 286
 Shaffer, Katie 244
 Shankar, Raj 228
 Shanks, Stacey 243, 258
 Shannon, Amanda 286
 Shannon, Lisa 286
 Sharapov, Idibek 92
 Sharma, Gaurav 228
 Sharon, Melodie 40
 Sharpton, Al 90
 Sharr, Lacy 257
 Shaw, Jesse 192
 Shaw, John 33
 Shearer, Lindsay 301
 Sheek, Elizabeth 236
 Sheeley, Amber 286
 Sheil, Meghan 151
 Sheil, Sean 74
 Shelby, Cole 149
 Shepherd, Mary 295
 Shepherd, Paul 241
 Shepherd, Sara 235

Sheridan, Alison 188
 Sherman, Zach 29, 180
 Shevetsora, Tatiana 63
 Shewell, Kallee 220, 243
 Shields, Andy 227, 230
 Shields, Angela 255, 286
 Shin, Kyong Ho 295
 Shineman, Shannon 242, 247, 286
 Shipley, Frances 25, 300
 Shipley, Jeff 201
 Shires, Heidi 228, 234, 235, 301
 Shively, Steve 259, 298
 Short, Rachel 286
 Shoults, Samara 286
 Shuck, Carrie 286
 Shul, Philip 25
 Siberian Dance Company 52
 Sidwell, Tyler 252
 Siefert, Kerra 251, 259, 286
 Sieners, Jesse 188
 Sigma Alpha 242
 Sigma Alpha Iota 24
 Sigma Gamma Epsilon 258
 Sigma Kappa 19, 24, 26, 31, 44, 242, 244
 Sigma Phi Epsilon 242
 Sigma Pi Sigma 258
 Sigma Sigma Sigma 18, 108, 244

Sigma Society 26, 244
 Sigma Tau Delta 258
 Silvey, Jessica 220
 Simmons, Del 36
 Simmons, Katrina 257
 Simmon's Restaurant and Deli 36
 Simmons, Stephanie 286
 Simmons, Wes 180
 Simon, Donald 226
 Simon, Kimberlee 236, 289
 Simon, Sasi 176, 245
 Simons, Abby 260
 Simpson, Abigail 289
 Simpson, Clinton 255, 256
 Sims, Emily 269
 Sipes, John 215
 Sis, Kelsie 236
 Sith, Julie 244
 Siva, Srikanth 220, 228, 298
 Skeen, Catherine 251, 259, 289
 Slaten, Jamie 303
 Slater, David 102, 298
 Smith, Amy 236
 Smith, Andrew 289
 Smith, Cory 289
 Smith, Dan 300
 Smith, Danny 168
 Smith, Derek 245



Freshman Natasha Moss sings and dances at Open Mic Night in the Student Union living room. Students were able to perform various interpretations of songs and dance moves.
 Photo by Mike Frye

Smith, Elgin 289
 Smith, Gregory 220, 260, 261, 289
 Smith, Heather 289, 228, 234
 Smith, Jaclyn 264
 Smith, Jarrod 201, 213, 256
 Smith, Jenette 289
 Smith, Jennifer 228, 250, 303
 Smith, Joyce 298
 Smith, Kelly 224, 256
 Smith, Krystle 235, 258, 303
 Smith, Larry 204
 Smith, Lindsay 289
 Smith, Marcus 180
 Smith, Megan 303
 Smith, Miles 303
 Smith, Miranda 85, 303
 Smith, Nick 19
 Smith, Steph 253
 Smith, Tracy 58
 Smith-Martinez, Elena 226, 261
 Smyth, Marsha 232, 234
 Sneddon, Tom 85
 Snodgrass, Courtney 303
 Snodgrass, Dani 241
 Snow, Derick 289
 Society for Human Resource Management 258
 Society of Professional Journalists

260
 Sol, Robin 231, 241, 242, 243
 Solheim, Roanne 298
 Sondag, James 242
 Sonnichsen, Brandy 188, 289
 Southwest Baptist University 180, 187, 189
 Spainhower, Jessa 241
 Sparks, Autumn 23
 Sparks, Bradley 303
 Spearow, Stacy 289
 Spegal, Eric 261
 Spegal, Erin 303
 Spencer, Michael 153
 Spencer, Tom 300
 Spiegel, Laura 243, 303
 Spinks, Kari 234
 Spradling, Carol 298
 Spradling, Kim 137, 140
 Spring, Megan 216, 217
 St. Francis Hospital 37
 St. Gregory's 230
 Stacy, Michelle 231, 256, 260, 261, 289
 Stadlman, Rollee 127
 Stahl, Dustin 228
 Stanard, Ashley 201
 Stanard, Tyson 180
 Stangl, Stephanie 303

Stanley, Brandon 234
 Stark, Jayson 86
 Starkey, Amanda 245
 Starr, Jordan 231, 252, 254, 289
 Stearman, Chad 245
 Steel, Roberta 31
 Steffen, Derek 303
 Steffens, Brent 31
 Steffens, Shirley 298
 Stehly, Elizabeth 261, 303
 Steiner, Mike 136
 Steinmeyer, Gene 198, 199
 Steinmeyer, Michele 198
 Steinmeyer, Sam 199
 Stelle, Andrea 245
 Stephens, Abby 20, 21, 235, 236
 Stephens, Brent 34
 Stephens, Carleen 21
 Stephens, David 169
 Stephens, John 21
 Stephenson, Josh 235
 Stephenson, Lindsay 216
 Stetson, Shawn 224, 289
 Stevens, Amber 257
 Stevens, David 242, 289
 Stevens, Jason 300
 Steward, Darla 232, 289
 Stewart, Alisa 220, 289

Stiens, Anthony 303
 Stiens, Charlotte 300
 Stiens, Jill 249, 255
 Stilson, Jasmine 224, 228, 235, 258, 303
 Stipe, Andy 242
 Stith, Scott 242
 Stobbe, Amanda 303
 Stokes, Joey 40, 41
 Stone, Ben 241
 Stonum, Amy 236
 Storm, Danielle 242
 Strauch, Jody 136
 Strough, Sarah 251, 289
 Strueby, Kristie 245, 249
 Strunk, Brandon 246
 Stubblefield, Krystin 224, 236, 237, 241, 248
 Student Advisory Council 234
 Student Ambassadors 234
 Student Dietetic Association 254
 Student Missouri State Teachers Association 260
 Student Senate 219, 234
 Students for a Free Tibet 34, 221
 Students In Free Enterprise 148
 Study, Kristin 289
 Stull, Lisa 289
 Stull, Travis 261

**Thinking about
grad school?**

**Think about
Northwest.**

Northwest offers a great array of valuable graduate degrees — see if we're still right for you!

CONSIDER THESE DEGREES:

- M.B.A.
- Master's in Education
- Geographic Information Sciences
- HPERD
- See Graduate Office for all available programs

Northwest Graduate Office
562-1145 ■ www.nwmissouri.edu/graduate

YOUR ONE-STOP SOURCE FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL INFORMATION.

Once a Bearcat, Always a Bearcat!



Alumni House

640 College Avenue

(660) 562-1248

alumni@mail.nwmissouri.edu

N

**NORTHWEST
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

Stumme, Lori 303
 Stumph, Michelle 261
 Suarez, Catherine 73
 Suarez, Lauren 244
 Suckow, Stephanie 260
 Sudhoff, Doug 84
 Sueyoshi, Minoru 222, 228, 303
 Summers, Lori 289
 Sunderman, Derek 81
 Sunken, Stephanie 187,
 201, 203
 Super Fan Clan 164
 Supinger, Lacey 264
 Suppal, Preeti 298
 Surface, Brian 210
 Sutton, Doug 129
 Svoboda, Jim 180
 Svoboda, Lesley 228, 241
 Swanson, Jaclyn 303
 Sweatman, Erin 257
 Swedburg, Sarah 243
 Sweeton, Ryan 220, 261, 303
 Swift, Stephanie 303
 Swink, Kara 260, 261, 303
 Switzer, Nichole 303
 Switzer, Tracey 224, 303
 Swope, Corey 220, 289
 Sychra, Tami 303

T

Taber, Jennifer 255
 Tabla Rasa 34, 35
 Tabler, Amanda 228, 259, 303

Tague, Troy 251, 289
 Talmadge, Klinton 242
 Talone, Nick 235, 242, 250
 Tan, Tze-Liang 222, 223
 Tanihata, Satoshi 289
 Tapia, Rosa 213, 291
 Tappmeyer, Steve 195, 198
 Tatum, Bart 180
 Tau Kappa Epsilon 31, 44, 244
 Tau Phi Upsilon 244
 Taylor, Hannah 259
 Taylor, Rachel 257
 Taylor, Stacey 226
 Teaney, Connie 295
 Tello, Otero 291
 Termini, Chris 180
 Terrell, Jenny 242, 246
 Terry, Dan 180
 Terry, Joel 201, 203
 Terry, Stephen 16, 17, 116,
 117, 240, 303
 Teter, Jeremy 215
 Teubner, Sarah 231, 261, 303
 Thakur, Ankush 228
 The Pub 34
 Theler, Brian 89
 Theodore, Bob 264
 Theulen, Stach 241
 Thole, Megan 241, 243, 291
 Tholen, Taylor
 224, 231, 235, 303, 324
 Thomas, Janson 223, 231,
 235, 257, 291
 Thomas, Jennifer 303
 Thomas, Michelle 24
 Thomas, Scott 303



Mike Leaman and Chad Nicholson perform in Lady Gregory's "Rising of the Moon" on Feb. 12. The production was part of the theater's lab series that was produced and directed by students. photo by Mike Dye.

Thompson, Rachel 228
 Thompson, Kerry 244
 Thompson, Pat 298
 Thompson, Robesta 255
 Thoni, Christine 236, 291
 Thomson, Cara 244
 Thorton, Wes 192
 Throener, John 291
 Thrower, Sam 222
 Thu, Bryan 303
 Thurman, Leanne 234, 303
 Tibbles, David 252, 291
 Tiehen, Mike 180
 Tilk, Randy 248
 Tillman, Heather 241
 Timberlake, Justin 84
 Timmerman, Melissa 244, 291
 Tindall, Jamie 246
 Tinsley, Joyce 71
 Tjeerdsma, Carol 151
 Tjeerdsma, Melvin
 29, 113, 173, 178, 180
 Todd, Aaron 241
 Todd, Matthew 220, 235, 303
 Todorov, Nayden 71
 Toebben, Julie
 182, 201, 231, 235, 303

Tollefson, Dave 180
 Tominia, Gina 236
 Tomlin, Katherine 232
 Tones, Nick 180
 Toomey, Deb 117
 Touney, Bryan 182, 201
 Tower Yearbook 260
 Townsend, Lillian 31
 Tran, Crystal 234, 303
 Trede, Bradley 182, 236,
 201, 246
 Trent, Dawn 291
 Trester, Stephanie
 51, 69, 228, 236, 261
 Tripp, Katie 250
 Tritten, Tyler 291
 Trowbridge, Sarah 187
 Troxel, Michael 304
 Troyer, Becky 264
 Trujillo, Marcella 232
 Tuinei, Joe 180
 Turner, Andrew 251, 261
 Turner, Lewis 303
 Tuttle, Alex 178
 Tyre, Seth 236
 Tyron, Mandy 187
 Tysdahl, Troy 180, 235, 250

Tyser, Ashley 22

U

Uckhiyudora, Anna 62
 Ulrich, Jan 87
 Umscheid, Amanda 224, 303
 Umstattd, Dan 303
 Underwood, Henry 303
 Ursch, Nicole 291
 USBank 58

V

Valadez, Louisa 261
 Van Boening, Angela
 249, 253, 259
 Van Dine, Corey 197
 Van Dusseldorp, Katie
 188, 303

Van Laar, Jammi 246
 Van Zante, Alisa 303
 VanAusdal, Dennis 19
 VanBuskirk, Emily
 162, 231, 291
 Vandermillion, Robert 242
 Vandivort, Jason 236, 246
 VanOsdale, Bryan 106
 Vansaghi, Tom 45, 98, 123
 Varnan, Elizabeth 243, 259
 Varnon, Liz 18
 Vasquez, Nic 24
 Vavricek, Larry 252, 254, 291
 Vavricek, Luke 242
 Vega, Edwin 245
 Veligati, Sashank 228
 Venable, Grant 160, 164, 165
 Veneman, Ann 93
 Verbeck, Mary 236
 Verdi, Nicholas 291
 Verma, Pooja 228
 Vertako, Mike 261
 Vescovo, Laura 303
 Vetter, Amy 236
 Vick, Nathan 291
 Victor, Jodi 235, 241, 244, 248
 Victor, Julie 235, 241, 248, 250
 Viditto, Stacy 236
 Villines, Laura 253, 259

Connect now!

Distance Learning at Northwest

Northwest Online



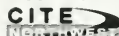
www.NorthwestOnline.org

**Northwest Missouri Educational
 Consortium
 Interactive Television Courses**



www.info.nwmissouri.edu/nmec/

Faculty Technology Support for Distance Learning



Owens Library 246
 (660) 562-1532 (660) 562-1113
 Fax (660) 562-1949
cite@mail.nwmissouri.edu

Vinatieri, Adam 87
 Vinci 261
 Vreger, David 295
 Vogel, Jeni 264
 Vollers, Cortnee 250, 257, 291
 Vollertsen, Sarah 197, 198
 Von Holzen, Roger 135
 Vorderbruegg, Amy 153
 Voris, Michael 291
 Vorm, Lindsey 224
 Vorthmann, Cassi 244, 303
 Vossenkemper, Jake 246
 Vostrez, Liz 243, 258, 303, 324

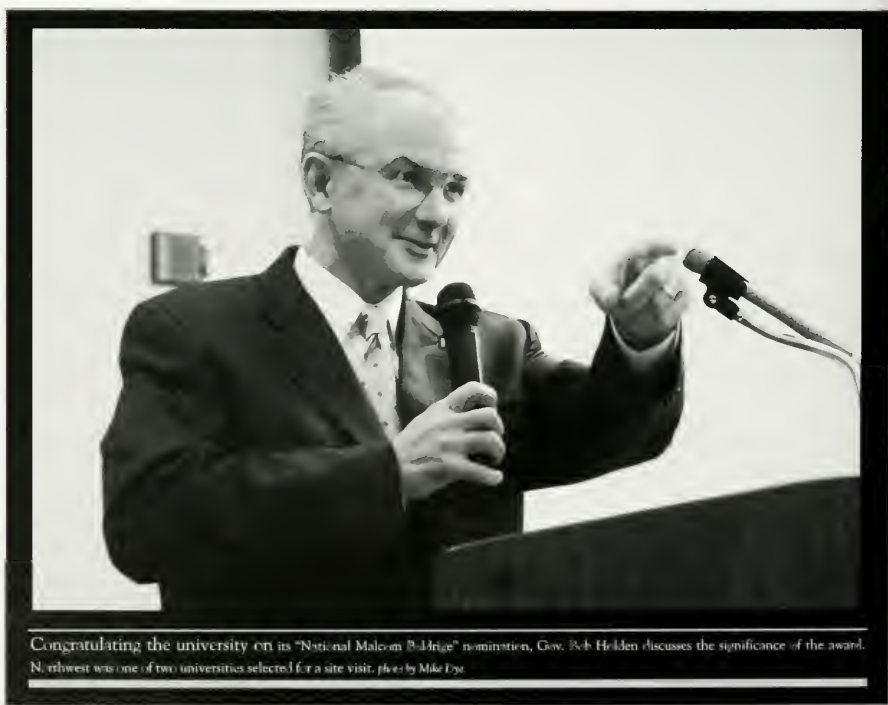
W

Wageuknecht, Rainett 228
 Wagner, Will 180
 Waigand, Kathryn 291
 Waldeier, Jeremy 111
 Waldo, Nick 242
 Walker, Alyssa 163
 Walker, Jim 295
 Walker, Matt 256
 Walkout Day 24
 Wallace, Sarah 188, 189, 291
 Wallace, Tiffany 220, 291
 Walters, Barbara 84
 Wand, Becky 241, 261
 Wand, Jim 51
 Wand, Seth 178
 Ware, Brett 295
 Washam, Lindsay 243
 Washburn University 180
 Wasson, Dustin 291
 Waters, Justin 231
 Waters, Ryan 180
 Watkins, Daniel 235
 Watson, Michelle 224
 Watson, Nicholas
 224, 235, 242, 261, 303
 Watts, Ben 241
 Weaver, Jeff 86
 Webb, Diedre 226
 Webb, Falohn 244
 Weber, Jared 257, 291
 Webster, Jill 244, 303
 Webster, Mallory
 58, 59, 220, 303
 Weeder, Matt 182, 201, 228
 Weichinger, David 80
 Weigel, Miranda 231

Weinstein, Jacqueline 291
 Weir, Keanan 192
 Weis, Kim 226, 246, 303
 Weis, Marci 226, 246
 Weiss, Denise 295
 Weiseldorfer, Fred 16
 Weller, Rachael 243
 Wells, Jennifer 267, 291
 Wells, Michael 246
 Wells, Shon 29, 180
 Wells, Tara 222
 Wells, Thomas 224, 303
 Wemhoff, Michael
 220, 224, 230, 231
 Wendl, Joseph 303
 Wennihan, Beth 303
 Wessel, Todd 180
 West, Marcus 215
 Westin, David 84
 Wheeler, Kristy 261
 Whipple, Dara 244, 303
 White, Brett 245
 White, Chris 224
 White, Jason 148, 300
 White, Kala 242
 White, Morris 29, 180, 181
 White, Ryan 242
 Whithorn, Sarah 224, 261, 291
 Whitt, Pat 180, 215
 Whitten, Megan 235, 236, 261

Whittington, Laurie 232
 Wicker, Renee 224, 303
 Wiegand, James 180
 Wiese, Cara
 231, 242, 246, 248, 256, 293
 Wilcox, John 52, 73
 Wilcox, Jordan 180
 Wilcox, Kenton 298
 Wilfred, Shalini 227, 228
 Williams, Elizabeth 220
 Wilke, Melissa 244
 Wilkinson, Leslie 236
 Williams, Amber 293
 Williams, Betsy
 111, 235, 261, 293
 Williams, Glenn 290
 Williams, Jennifer 244
 Williams, Jerard 303
 Williams, John 220
 Williams, Joshua 251, 293, 323
 Williams, Kelly 180
 Williams, Lance 236, 246, 293
 Williams, Michael 242
 Williams, Nicole 235
 Williams, Ryan 255
 Willingham, Joni 260, 261, 303
 Willis, Eric 223, 231, 235, 293
 Willis, Kiley 243
 Willrich, Jake 180
 Wilson, Brice 293

Wilson, Crystal 303
 Wilmes, Adam 236, 246
 Wilmes, Cassie 12
 Wilmes, Dee Ann 293
 Wilmes, Megan 257
 Wilshusen, Theresa 257
 Wilson, Aaron 242
 Wilson, Anita 232, 244, 258, 293
 Wilson, Drew 182, 201
 Wilson, Mike 98, 300
 Wilson, Sky 195, 192
 Wilson-Sharp, Wilma 237
 Wiltshire, Xandria 239
 Winecoff, Sara 245, 293
 Winfrey, Oprah 106
 Winn, Meghan 239
 Wirt, Mary 200, 201, 203
 Wise, Jill 293
 Wistrom, Christopher 257, 293
 Withers, Matt 193
 Withrow, Tiffany 222
 Witte, Allison 224, 303
 Wittmaack, Ashley
 232, 234, 303
 Wittstruck, Lindsay
 236, 241, 293
 Wolf, Carl 83
 Wolfe, Jenna 197



Congratulating the university on its "National Malein Bldridge" nomination, Gov. Bob Holden discusses the significance of the award. Northwest was one of two universities selected for a site visit. photo by Mike Day

Tower 2004 Colophon

Northwest Missouri State University's 83rd volume of Tower was printed by Herff Jones, 6015 Travis Lane, Shawnee Mission, Kan. The 336-page book had a press run of 2,300 and was electronically submitted. Quarter-bound cover printed in 15 Rich Gold and 1754 Silktouch Viridian Green with 16 Brush Grain. Paper use as follows: special section printed on Natural CT-3 paper stock with remaining pages printed on 100lb. Bordeaux. All spreads with color photography accented with UV lamination.

Tower was produced in Adobe Pagemaker 7.0 using Macintosh G4 computers. Photoshop 7.0 and Eye Correct were used to color manage all photos. Simple Tech Flash Link UCS-200 was used to download all images from Nikon DIX digital cameras. Nikon Super Coolscan 4000 ED scanners were used to scan negatives.

Individual portraits and campus organization photos were taken by Thornton Studios, 40 W. 25th St., New York, N.Y., 10010. National news photos were purchased from Associated Press Worldwide Photos and Getty Images.

National Advertising was sold through Scholastic Advertising Inc., of Carson City, Nev.

Inquiries concerning Tower should be sent to: Tower Yearbook, 800 University Drive, No. 7 Wells Hall, Maryville Mo., 64468

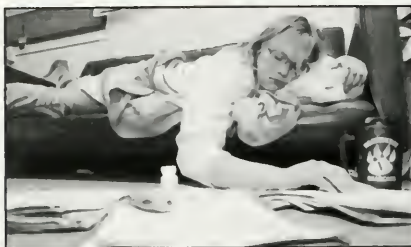
- Wolfe, Stella 232, 244, 258
 Wolff, Sara 293
 Womack, Cheryl 38
 Women's Northwest Golf 232
 Wong, Amos 31
 Wood, Keith 81
 Wood, Liz 48, 232
 Wood, Marietta 293
 Woodke, Josh 245
 Woodland, Dam 242
 Woodland, Nathan 220, 242, 293
 Woods, Angela 228
 Woods, Clint 224
 Woody, Elizabeth 278
 Woon, Go Hur 298
 Wooton, Vicki 182, 183, 184, 200
 Workman, Ashley 242, 246
 World AIDS Day 227
 Worley, Melissa 236
 Wright, Andrea 78
 Wright, Brandon 220, 222
 Wright, Matthew 34, 293
 Wright, Rachelle 220, 293
 Wright, Sheila 228
 Wrisinger, Heather 293
 Wunder, Melissa 187
 Wynn, Heather 240
- Y
 Yarnell, Jason 221, 222
 Yarnell, Karin 222
 Yarnell, Meghan 222
 Yates, Ashley 220
 Yeager, Jason 180
 Yeldell, Joel 246
 York, Ben 241, 242, 248
 Youmans, Travis 220
 Young, Cole 222
 Young Democrats of Missouri and America 234
 Young, Sara 224, 248
 Young, Tyler 293
 Young, Yao-Chieh 222, 223
 Youngmans, Jennifer 293
- Z
 Zacharias, Melea 187
 Zaroor, Allison 223, 235, 246, 293
 Zehley, Jenny 243
 Zelif, Nancy 257, 298
 Zeller, Jeff 245
 Zenkovich, Alexandra 62
 Zenor, Katie 228
 Zeus and Hera Pageant 44
 Zevecke, Callie 236
 Zevecke, Jerry 9
 Zimmerschied, Sarah 236
 Zimmerschied, Erin 261
 Zoo Story 51
 Zuerlein, Sarah 251, 293
 Zuk, Amy 236
- Yaple, Steven 293

Thank you

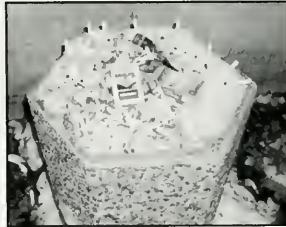
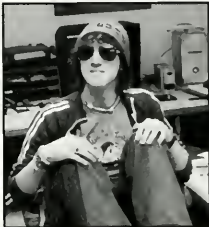
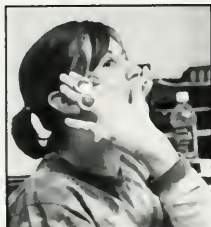
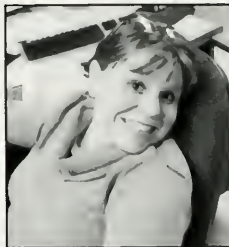
The Tower Editorial Board would like to thank the following people for their contributions to the production of the 2004 yearbook:

Laura Widmer, Ann Lockwood, Herff Jones, Thornton Studios, Scholastic Advertising, Will Murphy, Julie Bogart, Nancy Hall, Debbie King, Jerry Donnelly, Student Affairs Office, Data Processing, Registrar's Office, Dean Hubbard, University Relations, Darren Whitley, the Northwest Missourian and Heartland View.

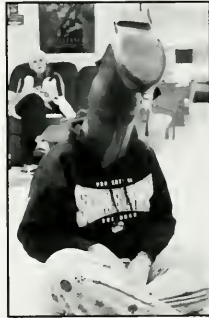
*Melissa Galitz
Editor in Chief*



*Kara Swink
Managing Editor*



Amanda Bruhn design, Megan Heuer copy director, Nicole Richards photographer, Trevor Hayes sports editor



Mike Dye photography director, Joni Willingham DVD editor, Brent Burklund design, Amber Brazil profiles editor, Theresa Chiodini photographer



Front Row: Melissa Galitz and Kara Swink. Row 2: Laura Widmer, Shannon Meister, Megan Heuer and Nicole Richards. Row 3: Trevor Hayes, Mike Dye and Joni Willingham. Back Row: Brent Burklund and Amber Brazil. Not Pictured: Jessica Hartley chief reporter, Hitomi Koyama design, Sam Feldman DVD and Patrick Sasser DVD.

*From the lack of windows to the far off
bathroom stalls, excitement and
enthusiasm dripped down Wells' walls.*

*Your young blood began to tackle Tower with Carebear
cupcakes and confusion. By the end of fourth deadline, I
overheard plans for Tower 2006.*

*While we played with rubber boots for 45 minutes, read
the '666' speedometer, cringed after tequila and took
breaks for "S-to-the-Mokes" - Together we learned the
Tower ABC's.*

- T**hree-thirty: The exact time the AP God that lives in the snack machine will answer the phone.
- O**bscene: Multiple definitions can describe types of late night phone conversations or the amount of volatile vapor that can escape from one body.
- W**and: Anything is possible when you click your basement slippers together and wave the magic fairy wand.
- E**at: Anything that you put in your body the week before deadline or the weekend of doesn't count.
- R**ecess: To maintain sanity, take a break every three hours and do something random.
- Y**ell: It is important to scream, shout, whoop, howl, roar, holler, wail or even bawl to clear the body of tension and annoy fellow student pubbers.
- E**nemy: Warning! Type (1-100) errors have all unexpectedly occurred in your now corrupted file. Please reboot the computer and begin the WHOLE process again.
- A**ladine: Always hire someone who has it to feed the hungry ed board Domino's.
- R**ead: When copy editing hundreds of stories it is important LET GO of an unusually strong hatred toward the rainbow of folders that have prongs, even if you don't have a hole punch.
- B**F P's: The life-blood of deadline.
- 00**ps: Was that your Clay Aiken CD I accidently shined with sandpaper?
- K**eys: Keep them close to you or they will end up on the roof and you won't be wearing shoes.

*Without any further Questions,
Comments, Thoughts or Concerns I thank
all of you for my smiles this year.
TEAM BREAK!*







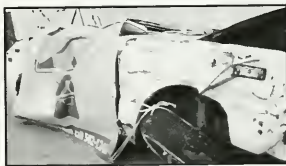
Tradition & Transition

Celebration plans proceeded in the spring to commemorate the traditions established over 100 years. Campus buzzed with the possibility of the biggest transition in history.

President Dean Hubbard and President of the University of Missouri systems Elson Floyd officially declared the deceleration of the merger talks Oct. 1. After a brief hiatus, the University of Missouri System Board of Curators unanimously approved the memorandum of understanding on Jan. 29. The Board of Regents approved the understanding Feb. 7 with only one opposing vote, Lydia Hurst. President Hubbard and President Floyd signed a joint resolution Feb. 13 to send to Jefferson City. The Senate and the House of Representatives had not approved the bill as of March 10.



You passed a possible \$50 student activities fee by a margin of only 30 votes. The proposed fee tempted the possibility of prominent acts performing on campus. As of publication date, the activity fee



was enroute of Student Senate approval followed by the Board of Regents.

In an effort to combat drunk driving the Safe Ride Home program began Feb. 27. With Campus Safety assistance and support by the Division of Student Affairs, students dialed 562-1245, presented identification, and rode home in a university van.

Left and Clockwise • University of Missouri System President Elson Floyd signs the 15-point Memorandum of Understanding Feb. 13 alongside University of Missouri System Board of Curators' M. Sean McGinnis. The signatures documented compromising details regarding the merger between Northwest and the UM System. *photo by contributing photographer Niki Carder* • Involved with the Vagina Monologues, student Maria Swope portrays an older woman reminiscing about her sexual history. The Vagina Monologues written by Eve Ensler promoted women's liberation and empowerment. *photo by Mike Dye* • A destroyed car sits on campus to demonstrate to students what can happen when you drink and drive. The Safe Ride Home program would prevent such accidents by offering alternative transportation to those who were

Lori King and Ashley Kemps perform "Susan Glaspell's Trifles" in the Black Box Theater at Northwest. Trifle was directed by student Jessica Lambert. photo by Mike Dye





Tradition & *Transition*



